

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOWN AND COUNTY CLUB

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 90th anniversary of the Town and County Club in Hartford, Connecticut. This club was originally founded on May 21, 1925 as a private women's club and has continually flourished into an esteemed location for members to enjoy organized social, intellectual, and artistic gatherings.

The first President of the club was Miss Anne Eliot Trumbull, and on the day of the first meeting of her Board, the Club had been incorporated with the assistance of attorney Barclay Robinson, under the name of 'The Town and County Club, Incorporated'. The Articles of Association state the purposes for which the corporation was formed, and signed by the 16 subscribers present at the meeting. The Articles state: 'For creating an organized center for women's work, thought and action; advancing the interests of women; promoting science, literature, and art; providing an accessible place of meeting for its members; promoting social intercourse by such means as the members of the corporation shall deem expedient and proper for that purpose, and for acquiring and maintaining and club house and grounds.'

In a time when the most private club memberships were restricted to men, these women represented the voice and action for change by creating one of their own. In just five years after women's suffrage in 1920, women in the Hartford County area chose to congregate and soon created this popular club that would continue on and today, celebrate its 90th anniversary. It is my honor to congratulate the Town and County Club in Hartford, Connecticut.

IN HONOR OF THE 2015 GRADUATES OF LEADERSHIP ROWAN

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the graduates of the Leadership Rowan class of 2015. These graduates represent a cross-section of leaders in Rowan County, North Carolina, who are dedicated to making their county and local communities a better place.

Leadership Rowan is a nine month program designed to teach existing leaders and community volunteers about important local issues, introduce them to new means of involvement, and connect them with other leaders in the community. For 23 years under the sponsorship of the Rowan County Chamber of

Commerce, Leadership Rowan has graduated over 500 emerging leaders.

As a graduate of Leadership Cabarrus and Leadership Montgomery, which are similar programs in other North Carolina counties, I understand the level of commitment necessary to complete this program. I commend each graduate for taking the time to learn more about the political, cultural, social, economic, and educational issues in Rowan County in order to better understand and improve our community. These 25 graduates completed courses in History and Power; Business and the Economy; Public Education; Human Needs; Government; Criminal Justice; Communications; and Quality of Life.

Participants in this year's Leadership Rowan class include: Keri Allman, D.J. Barksdale, Gary Blabon, Keith Bowersox, Wendy Brindle, Mary Burridge, Thomas Cobb, Heather Crawford, Victoria Curran, Teresa Dakins, Addison Davis, Benjamin Davis, Michelle Fisher, Jon Folstad, Rori Godsey, Ashlee Hawkins, Deborah Johnson, Heather King, Glenwood Oats Jr., Ann Pressly, Laurie Ritchie, Janet Spriggs, Shane Valley, Curtis Walker, and Jeanette West.

It is an honor today to congratulate the graduates of Leadership Rowan for completing this program and for their dedication to serving our community and the State of North Carolina.

HONORING RABBI ANCHELLE PERL AND THE WINNERS OF THE GOOD DEED AWARDS FOR LONG ISLAND TEENAGERS

HON. KATHLEEN M. RICE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Miss RICE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding work of Rabbi Annette Perl of Chabad of Mineola and the winners of the prestigious Good Deed Awards for Long Island Teenagers.

For over two decades, the National Committee for the Furtherance of Jewish Education (NCFJE) has worked tirelessly to showcase and celebrate the tremendous achievements and service of our youth and to help our greater community appreciate their work.

The Good Deed Awards have helped provide so many young men and women with the recognition, confidence and encouragement they need to continue on a path of public service and become the leaders of tomorrow. This organization instills in them a sense of purpose and pride and demonstrates the potential that our nation's youth have for creating positive change in their communities and improving the lives of others.

That is why I want to begin by congratulating this year's winners. These 31 incredible young men and women come from over a dozen different high schools, represent a diverse set of backgrounds and cultures, and

were nominated by a variety of distinguished community members, including educators, religious and community leaders, elected officials, and members of the local business community. Brought together by their commitment to public service and the desire to help others, this year's winners truly embody the very best that our community has to offer.

I also want to acknowledge Rabbi Annette Perl of Chabad of Mineola, who has graciously hosted the Good Deed Awards for the past 22 years. Having had the honor of attending this event in the past, I know the crucial role that Rabbi Perl plays in guiding and encouraging these incredible young men and women, and in promoting community support for their work. Rabbi Perl has devoted his life to serving this community and I am truly proud to be his representative in Congress.

HELEN GORDON DAVIS

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the outstanding work of a trailblazing public servant and one of the champions of the Florida equal rights and civil rights movements, the late Florida State Senator Helen Gordon Davis, who represented the Tampa Bay area in the Florida Legislature from 1974 until 1992.

Senator Davis devoted her public service career to confronting and changing the inequalities in economic, legal and social status for women and African Americans. She was a true pioneer for pay equity for women. In 1980, Mrs. Davis was presented with the Florida ACLU Bill of Rights Award as a testament to her dedication for civil liberties for all.

Senator Davis was elected to the Florida State House of Representatives in 1974 as the first woman from Hillsborough County to be elected to the Florida Legislature. She was subsequently re-elected six times. In 1988, Senator Davis successfully ran for the state Senate where she fought for economic equality for women, and sponsored the first legislation on sexual harassment. Among her many achievements, Mrs. Davis created the Marriage License Trust fund for Spouse Abuse Centers, Court Depositories for Child Support Payments, the Displaced Homemakers for Divorced Women Act, and doubled the penalties for hate crimes.

With passion and courage, Mrs. Davis paved the way for future generations of Hillsborough County women in politics.

Before her time as an influential legislator, Mrs. Davis was president of the League of Women Voters of Hillsborough County from 1966–1969. In 1971, Mrs. Davis founded Florida's first women's center which sought to help women succeed in the workplace and helped many gain tangible professional and life skills. Mrs. Davis was the first recipient of the

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

League of Women Voters of Hillsborough County's Lifetime Achievement Award.

Mrs. Davis was born on Christmas Day, 1926 in Brooklyn, New York. Originally a stage actress, Mrs. Davis moved to Tampa in 1948 with husband Gene Davis, where she was a high school drama teacher and regular fixture in the community theater.

Although Mrs. Davis passed away on May 18, 2015, her legacy will continue through her broad-based legislative accomplishments, the Women's Centre in the Hyde Park community of Tampa, and the women she championed both professionally and personally. Mrs. Davis is survived by her daughters Stephanie and Karen, her son Gordon, her sister Jeanne, and her two grandchildren. On behalf of the Tampa community, I am proud to recognize Helen Gordon Davis for her dedication to Hillsborough County, the State of Florida, and to women everywhere.

AMERICAN RESEARCH AND COMPETITIVENESS ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 880—another unpaid-for permanent extension of an expired tax provision offered by the Majority.

I am privileged to represent many of our country's leading research institutions and innovative researchers and entrepreneurs in New York's 12th District. Like many of my colleagues, I believe that a permanent R&D credit will support critical research and create high-skilled, high-paying jobs throughout the country. This bill makes important improvements to the credit, and I hope to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to provide incentives for businesses to invest in research and development.

However, I cannot support policies that extend certain tax provisions while other critical tax credits, like those for higher education and the Earned Income Tax Credit, face an uncertain future. All told, the Majority's slate of unpaid-for permanent tax extensions would increase the deficit by nearly \$600 billion, all while its budget proposes severe cuts to education, transportation, and critical safety net programs in the name of deficit reduction. Americans are not fooled by this double standard, and Congress should reject this disingenuous approach to tax policy.

HONORING THE LIFE AND DEDICATED SERVICE OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA'S BELOVED JIM BRUCE GRANT, JR.

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and dedicated service of Northwest Florida's beloved Jim Bruce Grant, Jr. Jim was a loving husband, father, grand-

father, patriot, and friend, and his loss will be mourned by all those who knew him.

A native of Gulf Breeze, Florida, Jim showed tremendous leadership and service qualities, earning Eagle Scout honors during high school, and he built on this success when he answered the call of duty, joining the Florida Army National Guard in 1982. Jim also continued his education, earning multiple college and post-graduate degrees including both a Bachelor's of Science and an LL.M degree from the University of Florida, as well as a JD from the University of Alabama.

After a civilian break in service, Jim rejoined the Alabama Army National Guard in 2004, serving as a Staff Judge Advocate with 62nd Troop Command, Montgomery, Alabama. During Jim's time in the Alabama Army National Guard, he served three tours of duty in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. During his first two tours, in 2006 and 2010, Jim was assigned as a Military Intelligence Advisor in Afghanistan, while his final tour was served supporting Special Forces in Iraq as part of 1st Battalion, 20th Special Forces Group, Huntsville, Alabama. In total, Jim served our Nation for more than 16 years with honor and distinction, earning numerous awards including: two Meritorious Service Medals, two Army Commendation Medals, Army Combat Action Badge, Afghan Campaign Medal with the number 2, and the Iraq Campaign Medal.

In addition to his meritorious service as part of our Nation's Armed Forces, Jim also had a successful career as an attorney in the firm of Capell and Howard in Montgomery, Alabama, and he was a loving and devoted family man.

To some Jim Grant will be remembered as a patriot and veteran, to others as a first-class attorney committed to our constitutional justice system, to his family and friends he will be forever be remembered as a husband, father and grandfather.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize the life of Jim Bruce Grant, Jr. My wife Vicki and I extend our heartfelt prayers and condolences to his wife, Jennifer; daughters, Amanda and Alicen; grandson, George; sisters, Janie and Diane; and the entire Grant family.

RECOGNIZING DELBERT STEVENS
FOR HIS HEROIC ACTIONS IN
DEFENSE OF HIS COUNTRY DURING
WORLD WAR II

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Delbert Stevens, a native of Altoona, for his heroic efforts and selfless service to his country in World War II. Mr. Stevens, who grew up in Huntingdon County, will be deservingly honored at the upcoming Altoona Memorial Day Parade. He joined the Marines in 1943 when he was 23. He fought for our nation at Iwo Jima, where American forces undertook a historically difficult mission to advance our position in the war. Though nearly 7,000 Americans perished and 20,000 more were wounded in the siege, Mr. Stevens survived the long battle.

Among the soldiers called upon to secure the island, Mr. Stevens, serving as a corporal

in the 28th Marine Regiment, overcame some of the grisliest experiences of combat. In unwavering service to his country and fellow Marines, he contributed to a decisive victory that ultimately helped enable American victory in the Pacific in World War II.

It is my honor to recognize him, one of our nation's many heroes, for his courageous service to our country. I would also like to thank all the other men and women like him who unselfishly promote and defend the American cause so that the world may be a better place.

CONGRATULATING MACEDONIA
MINISTRY BAPTIST CHURCH ON
ITS 80TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church on the occasion of their 80th anniversary.

Macedonia Ministry Baptist Church has been described as being unique in the sense that many of the descendants of the founders and early leaders of the church are still active members today.

On May 9, 1935, a council of 16 men and women came together to organize a new Missionary Baptist church in the City of Flint. The first pastor was Rev. Joseph Mack. In the 1940's, Rev. Ira Watkins led the congregation into a building fund campaign for the building of a new church. In 1953, they moved from their original storefront dwelling to their new building at 1116 Hickory Street. Rev. Watkins passed away in October of 1960, after serving 20 years as pastor.

In December of 1960, the congregation elected Dr. J.C. Curry as its third pastor. Dr. J.C. Curry would become the church's longest serving pastor and was one of the original organizers of the Church-Security-in-Ministry initiative. After 41 years, Dr. Curry retired in 2001.

The fourth pastor was Rev. Alfred L. Harris who led the congregation from 2002 to 2011. In June 2012, Bishop Neal Roberson was named as the new pastor. Pastor Roberson was honored to accept the assignment, stating he was grateful for the opportunity.

For eight decades, the Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church has worked tirelessly to help those in the community most in need. Residents of the area have come to rely on the Macedonia Ministry Baptist Church for such blessings as food baskets given to the impoverished during the holidays, ministerial services offered to inmates of the Genesee County Jail, and the annual Free Food Give-Away.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the tenacity of the Macedonia Ministry Baptist Church and thank them for the service they have provided to the City of Flint and surrounding communities.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF MR. FRED CURLS**HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and to remember the late Mr. Fred Curls, a pioneer for civil and political rights and a resident of the Fifth District of Missouri, which I am honored to represent. On Friday, May 15, 2015, Mr. Curls passed away, after an incredible and inspiring ninety-six years of life.

The silhouette of Mr. Curls now joins the always growing shadow of little-celebrated Kansas Citizens whose work will make a difference for generations as yet unborn. Young African-American elected officials may not realize that the very office they hold—or aspire to hold—is, in no small part, related to the political pioneering of Mr. Curls.

Mr. Curls was one of the original founders of Freedom Incorporated, an African-American political organization which at one time could generate nearly 70,000 votes and remains influential to this day. The organization was at the forefront in serving as a catalyst for change in civil rights, public accommodations, and the election of candidates at all levels of government. Freedom Inc.'s office has been visited by City Councilpersons, Jackson County Executives, Mayors, Missouri State Senators and Representatives, Governors, Congresspersons, Senators, Presidents, and those who have Presidential aspirations.

For more than fifty years, Mr. Curls dedicated his life to the Greater Kansas City community, promoting and improving political empowerment and the civil rights of people of color. The ripples of his efforts are felt in our community and around the country. His children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren have followed in his footsteps in acknowledging their responsibility of giving back to the community. His son, State Senator Phil B. Curls, Sr. was the President of Freedom Inc. during a period when it was recognized as one of the most potent political organizations in the United States and brought about the election of the first African-American Congressman from the Fifth District of Missouri, U.S. Representative Alan Wheat.

Since the mid-1950s, Fred Curls was involved in real estate sales and appraisals, most notably in the African-American community of Kansas City. He fought against "restrictive covenants" whereby residential homes could not be sold in certain areas to minorities. He was part of a class action lawsuit which resulted in the United States Supreme Court outlawing such covenants.

In all of his activities, Mr. Curls demonstrated his dedication and commitment to the greater good of others. He was actively involved with his high school graduating class, the Class of 1937, which remained close even in recent years. He was honored by Jackson County, Missouri, as one of its "Legacy Awardees" for its 175th anniversary as a political subdivision. He was also honored by fellow Missourian, U.S. Representative WILLIAM LACY CLAY of St. Louis and myself as an awardee of the "Missouri Walk of Fame" designation, as one of the pioneers of Kansas City's African-American political struggle.

Throughout his life, he believed in the saying "make it happen." He put his principles into practice, and the results of his efforts "made it happen" throughout the Kansas City metropolitan area.

For those reasons and more, it is indeed an honor and a privilege to honor and remember the life of Mr. Fred Curls. Mr. Speaker, please join me in expressing our sympathies to the family of Mr. Fred Curls, and our gratitude for his endless commitment to serving the residents of Kansas City and the State of Missouri. Whatever we, as African-Americans, may attain in the political arena, Fred Curls and those who labored to act on our behalf as political pioneers have helped to change the course of history. He was a true role model not just to the African-American community in Missouri, but to the entire community at large.

CONGRATULATING JEFF
HERMANSSEN FOR HIS BRAVE
ACT OF HEROISM ON THE JOB**HON. CHERI BUSTOS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jeff Hermansen for his heroic actions on May 5, 2015. Mr. Hermansen selflessly put himself in harm's way in order to save the life of another.

Jeff Hermansen, a UPS delivery driver, was following his usual route across the East State Street Bridge in Rockford, Illinois on Tuesday, May 5th when he noticed a man struggling in the Rock River. Without hesitating, Hermansen removed his shoes, swam into the unpredictable Rock River, and brought the stranger to safety.

Mr. Hermansen's selfless heroics are made even more impressive by his excellent character. Following the incident, he declined any special treatment and went about his delivery route.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Hermansen's harrowing actions and admirable display of character are the true embodiment of a hero.

PATRICK MADDEN**HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Mr. Patrick Madden as a member of the United States Air Force Academy Class of 2015.

Patrick will graduate from the U.S. Air Force Academy as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Air Force on May 28, 2015.

His career in the service has just begun, but it is a testament to Patrick's unselfish devotion to the people of this great nation. The challenges will be many and the time, although it may seem like an eternity, will fly by almost unnoticed.

The challenge for this young man will be to retain as much as possible, pass on what he learns to others, and live life for every moment.

South Mississippi is proud of Patrick and his accomplishments, and we look forward to him continuing to represent not only Mississippi, but the entire nation, as a United States Air Force officer.

As Patrick embarks on a new chapter in life, it is my hope that he may always recall with a deep sense of pride and accomplishment graduating from a program as prestigious as the Air Force Academy.

I would like to send Patrick my best wishes for continued success in his future endeavors, thank him for his service, and congratulate him on this momentous occasion.

IN RECOGNITION OF GREG COLLINS,
RECIPIENT OF THE GREAT-
ER WILKES-BARRE SALVATION
ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE
AWARD**HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Greg Collins, who is receiving the Community Service Award from the Greater Wilkes-Barre Salvation Army.

Mr. Collins is the Area President for Wells Fargo's Northeast Pennsylvania market, which serves nine counties in northeast Pennsylvania. Prior to joining Wells Fargo in 1992, Mr. Collins was marketing manager for Bridon American Corporation.

A native of northeastern Pennsylvania, Mr. Collins' leadership and influence extends far beyond the workplace. He serves as a board member for several area organizations, including Misericordia University, the Greater Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business and Industry, Leadership Wilkes-Barre, and the Northeastern Pennsylvania Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Mr. Collins is a Scranton Plan committee member as well as Chairman of the 2015 American Heart Association Gala for Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Mr. Collins is a 2010 graduate of Leadership Wilkes-Barre's Executive Leadership Program, as well as a 4th degree member of the Knights of Columbus. Earlier this year, he received the 2015 North Star Award from the Northeastern Pennsylvania Council of the Boy Scouts of America. This community service award recognizes individuals for their contributions and dedication on behalf of humanity and the promotion of health and wellness for all.

It is a distinct honor to honor Greg Collins on receiving the Greater Wilkes-Barre Salvation Army Community Service Award, and I commend him for the many years of dedicated service he provided to our local community. His work on behalf of others serves as an inspiration for all of us.

RECOGNIZING HUNTINGTON HIGH SCHOOL AND HUNTINGTON MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS FOR REPRESENTING WEST VIRGINIA IN THE 2015 SCIENCE OLYMPIAD NATIONAL TOURNAMENT

HON. EVAN H. JENKINS

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a team of talented students from Huntington High School and Huntington Middle School in Huntington, West Virginia, for their participation in the 2015 Science Olympiad National Tournament at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln May 15–16. Their participation is a first for any school from West Virginia and is testament to the great accomplishments of West Virginia students in the subject areas of science, technology, engineering and math.

It is these students that are our future engineers, mathematicians, physicians, and if the results from this competition are any indication, our future is in great hands. I also want to recognize the teachers and other volunteers that made this event possible to attend for the students. The knowledge and passion they convey to the students is certainly reflected in the impressive work that they do.

In closing, I would like to list the names of those who represented the great state of West Virginia at the 2015 Science Olympiad National Tournament:

Science Olympiad team members from Huntington Middle School include: Team Coach Leann Haines, Tess Anderson, Beth Bell, Khaled El-Shazly, Allyson Ey, Elena Ferguson, Shylah Johnson, Phillip Murphy, Kayla Patrick, Rankin Payne, Sam Pittman, Clara Poling, Perin Schray, Isaac Sutherland, Megan Wolf, Demetrios Svingos, Cassidy Woodrum.

Science Olympiad team members from Huntington High School include: Team Coach William Strait, Adam Cordingley, Sarah Cordingley, Denise Dawley, Omar Salem, Abdullah Hijazi, Alicia Bird, Zach Perry, Triston Poston, Will Frazier, Kyle Grimes, John Holbrook, Phillip Murphy, Thad Taylor, Steven Richbart, Yazan Khader and Levi Parett.

IN HONOR OF THE HONORABLE
WILLIAM HUFF III

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to a respected public servant and outstanding citizen, the Honorable William Huff III, Tax Commissioner of Talbot County, Georgia. Sadly, Mr. Huff passed away on Thursday, May 14, 2015. Funeral services to celebrate his life will be held on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. at the Central High School Gym in Talbotton, Georgia.

A life-long resident of Talbot County, Georgia, William Huff was born on November 11, 1945, the youngest of six children. After graduating from Ruth Carter High School in Talbotton in 1963, he enrolled in Fort Valley

State University in Fort Valley, Georgia, where he became a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. and was recognized in Who's Who Among Colleges and Universities in 1966. He earned a Bachelor's degree in Social Sciences and a Master's degree in Guidance and Counseling.

Upon graduation, Mr. Huff returned to Talbot County and taught at Ruth Carter High School from 1968–1970. During this time, he also was a part-time car salesman at Meadows Motors in Manchester, Georgia.

In 1971, Mr. Huff was elected to the Talbot County Commission at the young age of 26, launching a career in public service that would span more than 40 years. Moreover, Mr. Huff's election to the Talbot County Commission earned him a place in history as the first African American elected to office in Talbot County as well as the youngest African-American County Commissioner in the state of Georgia. In 1988, he became the first African-American Tax Commissioner in Talbot County. Not one to rest on his laurels, Mr. Huff also was a trailblazer in the business community, becoming the first African-American Ford dealer in the state of Georgia in 1975.

Further demonstrating his enduring commitment to his community, Mr. Huff served on numerous boards, including the Talbot County Planning Commission; Upson Technical College; the Independent Farming Association; and the Ford Motor Association. He was appointed to the United States Selective Service System Board in 1998 and was also appointed to the Governor's Council on Aging by former Georgia Governor George Busbee.

Maya Angelou once said, "A great soul serves everyone all the time. A great soul never dies." William Huff is one such great soul, who served humanity in a special way. He devoted nearly four decades of dedicated service to the people of Talbot County through his meaningful contribution of energy, skill, and genuine passion. He was an honorable human being who loved deeply and, in return, was deeply loved. His impression on this earth extends beyond himself to the very wellbeing of Talbot County, and for it he will be remembered by the community for time to come.

On a personal note, Mr. Huff was a dear friend of longstanding. I have truly been blessed by his friendship, counsel and inspiration throughout the years.

William Huff is survived by his wife, Emma Jean; children, William Vincent, Reginald, and Jamie; eight wonderful grandchildren; and a host of other family members and friends.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian and I, along with the more than 730,000 people of the Second Congressional District salute Commissioner William Huff for his dedicated service and exceptional impact on Talbot County, Georgia. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in extending our deepest sympathies to Mr. Huff's family, friends and loved ones during this difficult time. We pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALMA S. ADAMS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, if I was present during the end of yesterday's vote series, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 259 and "nay" on rollcall No. 260.

HONORING LAURA ELIZABETH ALLIAH PERKINS FOR ACHIEVING PERFECT ATTENDANCE WHILE ENROLLED IN THE BROWARD COUNTY SCHOOL SYSTEM FROM KINDERGARTEN THROUGH HER SENIOR YEAR

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today to recognize Ms. Laura Elizabeth Alliah Perkins, a recent graduate of McFatter Technical High School. Laura was honored at the Broward County Public Schools fourth annual Best-in-Class and Perfect Attendance Awards ceremony on Thursday, May 7, 2015, and again on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 at the Broward County School Board Meeting.

The Best-in-Class Award is an accolade presented to students who have been continuously enrolled in Broward County Public Schools from kindergarten through 12th grade, who have perfect attendance. This is a remarkable achievement and it is an immense honor of mine to recognize Laura for her unwavering devotion to education.

Having never missed a single day of school for a total of 2,340 days is no small feat. Furthermore, in a show of appreciation, various community and business partners have joined together to provide Laura and fellow honorees with an assortment of gifts and supplies that will assist them as they continue their journey towards higher education.

Mr. Speaker, I once again want to commend Ms. Laura Elizabeth Alliah Perkins for her dedication and commitment to education. She is a shining example of student success. I wish her all the very best as she begins studying at the University of South Florida this fall, and know that she will make her community and the state of Florida proud.

TRIBUTE TO RACHEL JACOBS

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with deep sadness to pay tribute to a remarkable person, Rachel Jacobs, who was among those who tragically lost their lives in the Amtrak accident in Philadelphia last week. Rachel was the eldest daughter of my close friends, Gilda and John Jacobs, was the wife of Todd Waldman, and a loving mother to her young son, Jacob.

The accident has been devastating for those who knew and loved Rachel Jacobs, and for

the families of the other people who were killed or injured. Those families deserve to know exactly how this horrific accident happened and to have confidence that it will never be repeated. They also deserve to know that those who bear responsibility for this tragedy are also held accountable. I will insist on answers, solutions, and accountability, and I trust that my colleagues will join me.

At her funeral service in Michigan on Monday, I and others had a chance to hear firsthand just how deeply Rachel had touched the lives of so many. There were common themes among those who spoke at the service and in several of the stories written about her in the media since the accident. She was a dedicated friend, always going out of her way to be there for those she was close to. At the service we heard about how during Hurricane Sandy, when Rachel was 40 weeks pregnant and coping without electrical power, she went to the hospital to support a friend who was giving birth. Rachel took great joy in her family, as a wife and partner to Todd and as a mother to Jacob. She was a leader and a team builder who inspired her colleagues at ApprenNet, the education technology startup where she served as CEO. And she was incredibly smart, passionate and committed to social justice. As one of her friends told the *Detroit Jewish News*, “. . . she lit so many sparks. She was a visionary and a mobilizer. I'm amazed at how much she managed to fit into her 39 years.”

Rachel was known not only for her vision, but as the speakers at the service stressed, for her willingness to do the hard work necessary to bring her ideas to life. *Detroit Nation* might be the most vivid example of this. Rachel and friends in New York who had grown up in the Detroit area talked about creating a way for Detroit area natives who now live elsewhere to stay connected to their hometown and to participate in its revitalization. Rachel took this idea, sparked by a discussion among friends at a Passover Seder, and founded *Detroit Nation*—a nonprofit organization which now has more than 7,000 members in Metro Detroit and throughout the country. *Detroit Nation* creates connections between former Detroiters with expertise in a variety of areas and entrepreneurs and nonprofit organizations in Detroit who can benefit from that expertise, while also promoting the energy and innovation taking place in Detroit to people in cities throughout the country.

Mr. Speaker, Rachel Jacobs' mother, Gilda, perfectly described Rachel's most vital trait when she told the *Detroit Jewish News* that her daughter “. . . connected with the world.” This ability—to connect with the world and to create connections between other people to work together for a common good—has made a difference in the lives of many. May we all be inspired by Rachel, and I encourage my colleagues to join me in extending the deepest condolences to Rachel's husband, Todd Waldman and their son Jacob; to her parents, Gilda and John Jacobs; to her sister Jessica Steinhardt; and to all of Rachel's family, friends, and colleagues.

IN HONOR OF MURRAY J. PENDLETON, CHIEF OF POLICE OF WATERFORD, CT POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Chief Murray J. Pendleton of Waterford, Connecticut upon his retirement from the Waterford Police Department.

For 48 years, Mr. Pendleton has been a committed and active officer of the Waterford Police Department, serving for the past 23 as Chief of Police. Chief Pendleton has steadfastly focused on the security of citizens in Waterford, and he is known in particular for his devotion to improving traffic safety programs. Thanks to his tenacity and devotion, his tenure as Chief in Waterford has been recognized nationally and has left a lasting impact on the community.

Chief Pendleton's impressive law enforcement career started in the United States Air Force as an Air Force Police Officer in 1962. In 1967, he joined the Waterford Police Department, serving in multiple specialized roles until his promotion to Deputy Chief in 1984, and Chief in 1991.

Chief Pendleton has served as a valued resource to my office throughout my time in Congress, and his absence will be felt in eastern Connecticut. Chief Pendleton was not just a leader in Waterford and its outstanding department, but in the entire state, advocating for safe roads and highways, regionalizing first responders and resources, and making police and fire communications interoperable. Any time I had a question, he always made himself available in person or on the phone and his responses were always direct and honest with no sugarcoating.

Please join me in congratulating Chief Murray Pendleton on a lifetime of service to his community, and wishing him a rewarding, and well-deserved retirement.

DEDICATION OF THE LGBT MONUMENT IN ABRAHAM LINCOLN NATIONAL CEMETERY

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Chicago Chapter of American Veterans for Equal Rights, which will dedicate a monument for LGBT Veterans in Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Elmhurst, IL on May 25, 2015. This is an historic day, as this is the first federally-approved monument honoring LGBT veterans to be dedicated in a National Cemetery in the United States.

It is fitting that this monument is located in the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery. President Lincoln was not only our 16th President and from the great state of Illinois, but he was also the founder of the National Cemetery system. His Gettysburg Address of 1863 became a model of the principles of nationalism, republicanism, equal rights, liberty, and democracy.

I am grateful for the efforts of the American Veterans for Equal Rights (AVER) and their continued commitment and dedication to equal rights and equitable treatment for all present and former members of the United States Armed Forces.

Thanks to Stanley J. Jenczyk and his colleagues with the Chicago Chapter of AVER, the LGBT veteran community will have a lasting tribute honoring their achievements and sacrifices. This monument recognizes the innumerable accomplishments of our military and forever commemorates their endeavors as servants of our great nation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating this significant dedication with the Chicago Chapter of American Veterans for Equal Rights. I am honored to have such an exceptional organization in my district.

CONGRATULATING MILLEDGEVILLE'S TRIUMPH AEROSTRUCTURES-VOUGH AIRCRAFT DIVISION

HON. JODY B. HICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. JODY B. HICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud Milledgeville's Triumph Aerostructures-Vought Aircraft Division, an exceptional manufacturer located in Baldwin County, Georgia that was recognized as the 2015 "Large Manufacturer of the Year" by the Georgia Department of Economic Development.

Today, I praise Triumph for their global vision, their commitment to job creation, and for their extensive economic contribution throughout Middle Georgia. In my opinion, Mr. Speaker, Triumph is more than a manufacturing company but also a place of business integrity and workforce excellence. And I am honored to have a business like Triumph in my home district.

Mr. Speaker, Triumph is not only dedicated to business excellence but also determined to building a network of community leaders throughout their organization. Triumph's management established a tuition reimbursement program for its employees looking to further their education while dedicating countless volunteer hours to United Way, Relay For Life, and the American Red Cross.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I congratulate Triumph on their outstanding economic and leadership achievements, and I look forward to their future endeavors in the 10th district of Georgia.

HONORING MARTHA HERM FOR HER WORK WITH THE CENTER FOR PREVENTION OF ABUSE

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Martha Herm for the more than two decades she spent as the Executive Director of the Center for Prevention of Abuse in Peoria, Illinois.

Annually, the Center provides assistance to more than 5,000 victims of domestic, sexual and elder abuse in addition to providing prevention education to children, teens and adults across Central Illinois.

On top of her decades of leadership with the Center, Martha has served her community through other leadership roles with the Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the Illinois Certified Domestic Violence Professionals Board. As so many can attest to, Martha has been a true asset to the Peoria area.

Mr. Speaker, Martha has spent her life dedicated to serving her community and the state of Illinois, and we are very gracious for all she has done. I wish her all the best going forward.

RECOGNIZING HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH ON ITS 125TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. EMMER of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Holy Cross Lutheran Church of St. Cloud, Minnesota, for their 125th anniversary.

In 1890, Holy Cross Lutheran Church opened its doors. The congregation worshipped near the St. Cloud State University campus until they outgrew their facilities and in 1996 relocated to Clearwater Road.

For 125 years, generations of central Minnesotans have gathered together to worship under this church's roof. Today, more than 1,000 people celebrate their faith and love of Christ in this vibrant and growing faith community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this body join me in congratulating Holy Cross Lutheran Church on their anniversary. May they have many more fruitful years to come.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF PROJECT HEAD START

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as the author of H. Res. 92 and the Co-Chair of the Congressional Children's Caucus, it is with great pride and deep appreciation for the opportunities this great nation affords to its citizens that I rise to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Project Head Start, one of the signal achievements of the Great Society and boldest initiatives launched by the nation in the War on Poverty.

Launched in the White House Rose Garden on May 18, 1965, by President Lyndon Baines Johnson, the aim of Project Head Start was bold and audacious in its scope and design.

As President Johnson stated in announcing the opening of a new front in the War on Poverty with the launch of Project Head Start:

"We set out to make certain that poverty's children would not be forevermore poverty's captives. . . .

"This means that nearly half the preschool children of poverty will get a head start on their future. . . .

"These children will receive preschool training to prepare them for regular school in September. . . .

"They will get medical and dental attention that they badly need, and parents will receive counseling on improving the home environment."

Conceived as an eight-week summer program designed to provide pre-school training not just to prepare 5 and 6 year-olds to enter regular school the following September, but also to give nearly half the preschool children living in poverty "a head start on their future."

At its launch, the Head Start Program, administered by the Office of Economic Opportunity and wonderfully and skillfully led by its Director, Sargent Shriver, consisted of 2,500 projects, covering 11,000 Child Development Centers, serving about 530,000 poor children in every state of the Union.

Mr. Speaker, President Johnson recognized that the bleak future waiting for children trapped in poverty was not a phenomenon concentrated in the inner-cities of the large urban cities of the North but could be found in every region in every state in the nation.

That is why the Head Start Program was launched not as a mere demonstration project limited to a handful of counties, but as a program national in scope serving every city, suburb, and rural area in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, the Head Start Program provided pre-school training to prepare poor children to enter regular school and help put them on an even footing with their classmates as they entered school.

But it also had an even higher aim and loftier purpose, and that was to assist children prepare for the challenges they will face in life and to combat poverty's great weapons—hunger and malnutrition; illness and poor health; ignorance and cultural deprivation.

Project Head Start was from the start a national undertaking, utilizing the services of 41,000 professionals, including teachers, doctors, dentists, nurses, nutritionists, employing more than 47,000 persons, who were assisted by more than 500,000 volunteers.

Based on its initial success as a summer program, the following year, in 1966, Head Start was funded as a primarily part day, 9 month program, largely through existing community action programs.

In later years, the Head Start Program would be expanded to serve children with disabilities, Native Americans, homeless children, and to provide bilingual and bicultural migrant and seasonal programs serving 6,000 children in 21 states.

Today, the Head Start Program serves nearly a million poor children, including: 160,829 enrolled in Early Head Start for 3-year olds; 910,833 enrolled in Head Start; 20,627 American Indian/Alaska Native children enrolled in Head Start; 4,722 American Indian/Alaska Native children enrolled in Early Head Start; 32,082 children of migrant or seasonal workers enrolled in Head Start; and 40,853 homeless children enrolled in Head Start.

Additionally, the Head Start Program serves 136,120 children with disabilities, 15,632 pregnant women, and provides services to 771,840 families.

In my home state of Texas, the Head Start Program serves 661,000 poor children under

the age of 5, including 2,471 homeless children, 8,370 children with disabilities, and provides services to 53,333 families.

And in my home city of Houston, a remarkable organization called AVANCE has been serving the needs of low-income children and families since its founding in 1973.

AVANCE offers Head Start, Early Head Start, Parenting, Healthy Marriage, Fatherhood, and other programs designed to prepare and help low-income children, students, and families reach their potential.

Mr. Speaker, not only has the Head Start Program been a great benefit to its direct beneficiaries, it has provided substantial economic and social benefits to the nation as a whole.

Research studies have shown that for each dollar invested, the Head Start program yields a rate of return on investment (ROI) of 7–9 percent and the program is responsible for the direct creation of 236,591 jobs, with an average annual salary of about \$31,000 for Head Start teachers with baccalaureate degrees.

Mr. Speaker, another societal benefit of the Head Start Program is the improved health of the children and families it serves.

Research has shown that the mortality rates for 5–9 year-old children who had attended Head Start are 33–50% lower than the rates for comparable children not enrolled in Head Start.

Moreover, Head Start children are less likely to fall victim to childhood obesity and are at least 8% more likely to have had their immunizations than children who did not attend pre-school.

Mr. Speaker, the Head Start Program has been an unqualified success for the more than 31 million children and parents it has served since its inception in 1965.

And so it is that we can look back with pride on the 50 year record of this bold and innovative program.

But we cannot yet be satisfied because our work is not done and will not be done until every eligible child is afforded the opportunity to get a head start in life the program provides.

Today, only 42 percent of eligible low-income preschoolers are actually served by Head Start and less than 4 percent are in Early Head Start.

But we should not let the fact that we have more work to do to strengthen the Head Start Program detract from the joy and happiness we are justified in deriving from its half century of success and its vindication of our optimistic belief in the capacity of Americans to solve pressing national problems when people of goodwill work together in the spirit of cooperation rather than conflict.

The record of the Head Start Program shows that it can be done and that President Johnson was right—the Head Start Program was and is "one of the most constructive, and one of the most sensible, and also one of the most exciting programs that this Nation has ever undertaken."

And its reward for this bold act is the collective service and contributions to the betterment of society made by the 31 million children that have been served by the program over the past 50 years.

I thank the 100 colleagues who co-sponsored H. Res. 92, and especially the 65 members who joined me as original cosponsors of the resolution.

I also wish to express my thanks and appreciation to Chelsea Ukoha and Gregory Berry of my staff for their exceptional efforts and work on this wonderful tribute to a program that has contributed so much to the richness and vitality of our country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on H.R. 1191 (Roll Call Vote 118), the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act of 2015 on May 15, 2015. I would like to reflect that if I had the opportunity to vote on H.R. 1191, I would have voted Aye.

I strongly support the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act of 2015 and I believe we are at a critical point where Congress must be afforded the opportunity to review any deal with Iran. Although I support the ongoing negotiations of the Iran Nuclear Framework, I strongly believe the United States must ensure Iran is denied any opportunities to further pursue its nuclear ambitions. It is critical that the final deal require a comprehensive inspection and verification vehicle, including the right to "anytime, anywhere" inspections. Iran must also remove all its enriched uranium and comply with six United Nations Security Council resolutions to reveal the extent of its prior nuclear work. Most importantly, I believe we must exercise extreme caution before lifting any existing sanctions. Iran must demonstrate compliance with the deal before any sanctions are lifted. Furthermore, the United States must have a structure in place to immediately reimpose these sanctions if Iran is found violating any terms of the agreement.

Iran's nuclear program remains a threat to the international community. A nuclear-armed Iran would pose enormous challenges to the national security of the United States and our allies including Israel. Signing a final deal will only be the first step—the United States and the international community must continue to work together to provide the necessary oversight in order to prevent Iran from developing a nuclear weapon.

INTRODUCTION OF FIREARM RISK PROTECTION ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Firearm Risk Protection Act, innovative legislation to promote safe gun ownership.

Too often, our communities are left looking for answers after horrific tragedies inflicted with dangerous firearms. A requirement to carry liability insurance is a market-based solution that would hold gun owners responsible for the risk their firearms present, and create incentives for responsible gun safety practices.

The Firearm Risk Protection Act would harness the power of insurance markets to allow

professional actuaries to determine the risk presented by each gun and gun owner. Just as with car insurance, higher-risk owners of firearms would face higher premiums, while responsible owners could qualify for reduced rates.

As gun violence continues to inflict scars on American families and our communities, Congress should look for new ways to promote gun safety and prevent future tragedies. I hope my colleagues will join me to support this forward-thinking legislation.

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL R. MARTIN UMBARGER

HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished Hoosier and American, Major General R. Martin Umbarger, the Adjutant General of Indiana. Major General Umbarger is retiring after eleven years as the leader of the Indiana Army and Air National Guard, the Indiana Guard Reserve and support staff totaling more than 15,800 personnel.

Major General Umbarger began his career as an enlisted soldier for the Indiana Army National Guard in 1969. He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant after graduating from the Indiana Military Academy as a distinguished military graduate. He has served as the Deputy Commanding General for the Reserve Component in the U.S. Army Forces Command, Assistant Division Commander for Training for the 38th Infantry Division, and as Commanding General of the 76th Infantry Brigade.

Major General Umbarger earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in business from the University of Evansville and attended the United States Command and General Staff College and United States Army War College. Major General Umbarger has directed the pre-mobilized training, deployment and redeployment of most of the Indiana Army and Air National Guard in support of the Global War on Terrorism. He has served as a member of the Secretary of the Army's Reserve Forces Policy Committee and currently serves on the Secretary of Defense's Reserve Forces Policy Board.

As Secretary of State, I had the privilege of working with Major General Umbarger to protect Hoosiers serving in the military, both out-of-state and overseas, by promoting and improving absentee voting processes. Major General Umbarger recognized the importance of ensuring that those fighting for our freedom had the opportunity to vote for those sending them into harm's way. He truly values the rights of the men and women under his command, and they know it.

As Indiana's Fourth District Representative, I have also worked with Major General Umbarger on legislation which would study the structure of our military and how reserve components can be best utilized.

Major General Umbarger is one of the most accomplished adjutant generals in the country and a valuable leader in Indiana. He has led the Indiana National Guard and served our state and nation with integrity and distinction over his 45 year career in the Armed Forces.

I wish him and his family the best of luck as they prepare for the next chapter of their lives.

THANKING MS. SHARON ANN PORTER FOR HER SERVICE TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to thank Ms. Sharon Ann Porter for her more than fifteen years of outstanding service to the House of Representatives, in a number of administrative and support roles.

Ms. Porter began her career in the House in February 2000 as the Data Entry Specialist under the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO). Eager to learn and help carry out other duties, Ms. Porter was promoted to Financial Counselor in February 2001. As Financial Counselor she was responsible for the processing of payments as well as reimbursements requested by House offices, including Member, Committee, and Leadership offices. Ms. Porter worked diligently in all her roles, processing a large volume of payments on a daily basis, as well as forming long-lasting friendships with her customers and co-workers.

Additionally, Ms. Porter has offered her expertise during each House Service Fair, by volunteering extra time to assist with disseminating valuable information to House employees and customers. She was also instrumental in the transition to the new digital document management and electronic voucher submission known as E-Voucher, which streamlines services to House offices.

Ms. Porter's work ethic, diligence, and dedication have made her an invaluable asset to the CAO organization. She has consistently provided excellent customer service to Members and staff. Her outgoing personality, positive attitude, and sense of humor have endeared her to many colleagues and friends.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Ms. Sharon Ann Porter and I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking her for her distinguished service to the House of Representatives as well as the nation it serves. I wish Ms. Porter and her family all the best as she begins this new chapter in her life.

AUTHORIZING THE USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL IN THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER FOR AN EVENT TO CELEBRATE THE BIRTHDAY OF KING KAMEHAMEHA I

SPEECH OF

HON. TULSI GABBARD

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2015

Ms. GABBARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of S. Con. Res. 3, a concurrent resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for an event to be held on June 7, 2015, to celebrate the birthday of King Kamehameha I.

This annual celebration honors King Kamehameha I who established a unified Kingdom

of Hawai'i in 1810. King Kamehameha Day was celebrated first on June 11, 1872, and has been a Hawai'i State holiday since 1959. In 1970, the celebration of King Kamehameha's birthday in our nation's capital opened the rich history and culture of Hawai'i to more Americans.

In 1758, with the birth of Kamehameha, a prophecy foretelling that a great leader would be born and unite the islands of Hawai'i was fulfilled. Born into royal families from the islands of Hawai'i and Maui, Kamehameha's mentoring started at a young age. He learned religion, oral history, culture, economics, governance, navigation, warfare, and other fields of knowledge necessary to build a nation.

Kamehameha rose to power through political astuteness and superior forces. He was a visionary leader with a strategic mind, dominating presence, and persuasive personality. Kamehameha developed relationships with other royal families, built coalitions and sought the counsel of those steeped in modern warfare. By 1790, Kamehameha's modernized armed forces equipped with cannons and firearms and use of psychological warfare to undermine the spirits of opposing forces led to one successful military campaign after another.

While uniting the islands of Hawai'i, Kamehameha contemplated on the future of the Kingdom of Hawai'i and reasoned that for a nation to be vibrant, its citizens must feel safe and secure. Kamehameha reflected on a military encounter with fishermen gathering food from the ocean for their families. As Kamehameha gave chase to the fishermen, his leg got caught among the shoreline rocks. One of the fishermen hit him on the head with a paddle that broke into splinters. The fisherman spared Kamehameha's life.

Later, the fisherman was brought before Kamehameha. In his wisdom, Kamehameha ruled that the fisherman was innocent. The fisherman was protecting his family and land from an aggressor who could have done them harm. From that experience, Kamehameha embraced the inalienable rights of all men and women by proclaiming the Law of the Splintered Paddle (Kānāwai Māmalā Hoē), the law of the land. The law stated, "Let every elderly person, woman, and child lie by the roadside in safety." The Law of the Splintered Paddle sets the moral tone to do no harm to fellow human beings, take personal responsibility and think before committing an act of violence. It is fitting that the words of the Law of the Splintered Paddle are enshrined in the Hawai'i State Constitution. Its values have become a model for human rights law regarding the treatment of civilians and other non-combatants.

Kamehameha knew that in order to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of his people, it was imperative to create economic opportunities. Kamehameha invested resources to maintain viable fishponds and taro patches; protect fresh water streams, fertile soils, and forest lands; build schools and train a new generation of leaders. Kamehameha also bore witness to rapid unfolding events occurring since the arrival of Captain James Cook in 1778. Kamehameha knew that it was the beginning of a new chapter in the history of the Native Hawai'ian people, and he made wise decisions to prepare his people for the future.

In closing, I would like to extend my appreciation to the staff of the Committee on House

Administration, the Office of the Architect of the Capitol, and the Office of Sergeant at Arms who have helped make this annual birthday celebration for King Kamehameha I a success.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SCAN CONTAINERS ABSOLUTELY NOW (SCAN) ACT

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, after the tragic attacks on 9/11, Congress strengthened aviation security, which was the nature of the attacks against our country. While our aviation system is more secure—13 years later—we have not secured our nation's ports. Our ports are vulnerable to attacks.

I represent the Port of Los Angeles and the communities that surround the port; I have the personal responsibility of keeping the people of my district safe.

Top security experts recommend that shipping containers entering our nation's ports be scanned for radiological and nuclear materials and other potentially dangerous cargo. In addition, Congress passed laws requiring that 100 percent of all cargo be scanned by 2012. Today, three years after the deadline, we are scanning only 3 percent of incoming cargo.

I firmly believe that responding to ongoing terrorist threats and the risk of nuclear proliferation should remain top national security priorities.

The detonation of a nuclear device or "dirty bomb" at a port such as the Port of Los Angeles could cause a staggering loss of life. In addition, it could result in a West Coast or nationwide shutdown of all ports, which would cost the United States economy billions of dollars each day. The economic impact of port closure on supply chains was clearly demonstrated in 2002 when port workers were locked out for 8 days at the West Coast Ports. That cost \$1 billion per day.

For these reasons, I am re-introducing the Scan Containers Absolutely Now (SCAN) Act. This bill would create a one-year pilot program at two United States ports to evaluate the process of 100 percent scanning of cargo containers and its potential use at all domestic ports.

I previously introduced this in the 113th Congress. This reintroduction includes several improvements to give ports who wish to apply, more flexibility on the management of the security systems.

We must take our responsibility to protect the nation seriously. We cannot allow inconvenience or shortsighted economic expediency to get in the way of keeping our nation's ports and citizens safe.

RESTORING EDUCATION AND LEARNING (REAL) ACT

HON. DONNA F. EDWARDS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Restoring Education and Learn-

ing (REAL) Act, legislation that will curb our nation's high incarceration rate through the avenue of education.

Joined by Reps. DAVIS, LEE, SCOTT, DELAURO and RICHMOND, our legislation will reinstate Pell Grant eligibility to federal and state prisoners, which was allowed from 1972–1995. A provision in the 1994 omnibus crime bill amended the 1965 Higher Education Act and reversed this rehabilitating and well invested policy.

Back then, 350 postsecondary prison programs in 37 states existed across the nation for incarcerated individuals. That ability to gain post-secondary education has been drastically reduced to about a dozen today. Subsequently, our state and federal population has increased by nearly 50 percent from 1 million to 1.5 million today.

According to a recent Vera Institute study, it costs American taxpayers roughly \$31,000 a year to house an inmate. In my home state of Maryland, it costs taxpayers more than \$38,000 a year to house an inmate. Overall, our nation spends roughly \$40 billion a year on correctional facilities.

This comes despite a recent report by the RAND Corporation, which found that for every \$1 investment in prison education programs there is a \$4–5 dollar reduction in incarceration costs during the first three years post-release of a prisoner.

Earlier this month, I visited the Maryland Correctional Institution in Jessup as an observer of Goucher College's Prison Education Partnership. I was inspired as I sat down with incarcerated men and women taking college courses and asking for the opportunity to better serve society once they are released.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to cosponsor this important and much needed piece of legislation.

SAVANNAH STAFFORD

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Ms. Savannah Stafford as a member of the United States Naval Academy Class of 2015.

Savannah graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy with a degree in Oceanography, and her service assignment is Surface Warfare. She received a commission as an Ensign in the United States Navy on May 22, 2015.

Her career in the service has just begun, but it is a testament to Savannah's unselfish devotion to the people of this great nation. The challenges will be many and the time, although it may seem like an eternity, will fly by almost unnoticed.

The challenge for this young woman will be to retain as much as possible, pass on what she learns to others, and live life for every moment.

South Mississippi is proud of Savannah and her accomplishments, and we look forward to her continuing to represent not only Mississippi, but the entire nation, as a United States Navy officer.

As Savannah embarks on a new chapter in life, it is my hope that she may always recall with a deep sense of pride and accomplishment graduating from a program as prestigious as the Naval Academy.

I would like to send Savannah my best wishes for continued success in her future endeavors, thank her for her service, and congratulate her on this momentous occasion.

**APPLAUDING MIKE WHITE FOR
HIS BRAVE ACT OF HEROISM ON
THE JOB**

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mike White for the brave act of heroism he displayed while on the job this past November of 2014.

Mike works as a United States Postal Service mail carrier in the Peoria, Illinois branch.

This past November, Mike was going about his regular route when he noticed a woman on her front porch having a severe asthma attack. Mike tried to get her an inhaler and called 911 then did all he could to comfort the woman and care for her child while they waited for the ambulance to arrive. Thanks to his help, after a week of being hospitalized, the woman returned home in good health.

On his next delivery to her home following the incident, the woman Mike aided ran over and gave him a hug, thanking him for all he had done to help her.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Mike White and his willingness to go beyond the line of duty to help an individual in need. I thank Mike again for his service to our community.

**TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF THE LIFE
OF GASTON FRANCIS PERIAT**

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, dear friend and extraordinary American, Gaston Francis Periat. Gaston was born in San Francisco, California on September 19, 1922, and died peacefully in Santa Cruz, California, on December 11, 2013, at the age of 91.

Gaston was raised in San Mateo and graduated from San Mateo High School. He worked in his family's Chrysler-Plymouth-Dodge dealership, Periat & Sons, until World War II, when he entered the Army. Gaston was taught to speak French by his Swiss grandmother, and he spent much of the war in France where he acted as a liaison between the U.S. Army and French businesses. In February 1944, Gaston married Margaret (Peggy), and in 1946 the couple settled in San Mateo and began their family.

In 1970, Gaston and Peggy moved to Pescadero where Gaston enjoyed riding the trails on his horse Yuckabuck. After selling the family business in San Mateo, the family moved to Gilroy, where Gaston bought Gavilan Chrysler-Plymouth-Dodge. Upon his retirement, he returned to Pescadero where he served on the Pescadero Municipal Advisory Committee. During his final years, Gaston lived in the retirement community of Dominican Oaks in Santa Cruz.

Gaston Periat was a golfer, a story teller, a member of the Elks Club, a Rotarian and a friend to an extraordinary number of people. He was helpful to all in need and had the ability to make every person feel special. I was privileged to work with Gaston Periat during my time on the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors. He was unfailingly polite, concerned, professional and prepared, and we continued to work together during my tenure in Congress. He was a great and good man who made extensive contributions to our community and he will always be missed by those who had the good fortune to know him.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in extending our condolences to Gaston Periat's wife of 69 years, Peggy, and to his daughter, Judy Periat; son Dan Periat and his wife, Andrea Periat; son Ken Periat and his wife, Kimberly Periat; daughter Janet Periat and her husband, Frank Higgins; granddaughter Adriana Goericke and her husband, Jan Goericke, and great-granddaughter Mia Goericke; granddaughter Camile Steinmetz and her husband, Carl Steinmetz, and great-granddaughter Lola Steinmetz; granddaughters Renee Periat and Nadine Periat; grandson Aaron Periat and his wife, Kim Periat, and great-grandson Maximus Periat.

May our tribute to Gaston, as well as our thoughts and prayers be a source of strength and comfort to his entire family. Our community and our country were made stronger and better by Gaston Periat.

**HONORING LIEUTENANT GENERAL
CHARLES 'CHICK' CLEVELAND**

HON. MARTHA ROBY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant General Charles 'Chick' Cleveland, one of our country's great fighter pilots, an American hero, and a community leader in Montgomery, Alabama.

Lieutenant General Charles Cleveland was born in Honolulu, Hawaii in 1927 and was appointed for service at the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, New York. After graduating in 1949, he began his service in what was then the Army Air Corps, eventually transitioning into service with the U.S. Air Force and serving overseas during the Korean War. Later, Gen. Cleveland earned his master's degree in political science from Xavier University in Cincinnati, and completed the advanced management program at Harvard University in 1969.

In his more than 35 years of service, General Cleveland logged more than 4300 flying hours in military aircraft, including the F-86 Sabre. General Cleveland demonstrated a rarely-matched level of combat expertise, becoming one of our country's distinguished fighter aces. General Cleveland was credited with shooting down five enemy MiG-15 aircraft in Korea, officially earning the designation as an 'ace.'

General Cleveland went on to a distinguished career in the United States Air Force, holding several command positions including Commander of Air University at Maxwell Air Force Base in my hometown of Montgomery, Alabama.

Yesterday, the Congress awarded General Cleveland and all of the American Fighter Aces with the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest honor bestowed by Congress. I was honored to host General Cleveland in my office prior to the ceremony. My staff and I were privileged to spend time with this American hero and hear stories from his distinguished military service.

But General Cleveland's public service did not end with his retirement from military duty.

Since his retirement, General Cleveland has continued to devote countless hours to efforts to better his community, state, and country. After making Montgomery his family's home, he served as Director of the United Way, and led the Montgomery Area Food Bank. In 1989, he was chosen as Commissioner of the Alabama Department of Health and Human Services, serving through 1992.

Most recently, his 17 years of service as the President of the Alabama World Affairs Council helped transform the institute into the largest organization of its kind in the South.

The Alabama World Affairs Council is a fine organization which seeks to promote public awareness and understanding of international affairs as they relate to the political, economic, cultural, and military interests of the United States. The Alabama council is a member of the World Affairs Councils of America and is one of some 96 councils nationwide. Though General Cleveland is retiring from his position, he leaves an undeniable mark on the organization and its members who have benefited from his service.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize Lieutenant General Cleveland—a distinguished fighter pilot, a public servant, a community leader, and an American hero. He has truly set an example for future generations of Americans to come, and it is my great honor to represent him here in Congress.

**A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF THE
LIFE OF DAVID BRUCE GOLDBERG**

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to David Bruce Goldberg, who was born in Minnesota on October 2, 1967, and died tragically at age 47, on May 1, 2015, in Mexico. I had the privilege of representing him as a constituent residing in Menlo Park, California.

Dave graduated from the Blake School in Minneapolis and earned a BA degree, magna cum laude, from Harvard University. After graduating from college, Dave worked for Bain and Company and Capitol Records. In 1994, he founded Launch Media which was later acquired by Yahoo in 2001. In 2007 he joined Benchmark Capital, and in 2009, joined SurveyMonkey, where he was CEO at the time of his death.

Dave Goldberg was a successful entrepreneur, venture capitalist, and technology and music industry executive. He ran several online consumer businesses, and served as a director of many companies and organizations, but he was far more than the sum of his great professional success. Dave has been praised as warm, humble and kind, and described as a genius, a leader and a man of courage. He

was a sports fan, was passionate about education and children, and was lovingly described as a cross between a teddy bear and a tiger.

I've had the pleasure and privilege to work with Dave's wife, Sheryl Sandberg and the following are her poignant words expressed on the day of his funeral. They speak volumes about the goodness and greatness of this extraordinary man:

"I want to thank all of our friends and family for the outpouring of love over the past few days. It has been extraordinary—and each story you have shared will help keep Dave alive in our hearts and memories.

I met Dave nearly 20 years ago when I first moved to LA. He became my best friend. He showed me the internet for the first time, planned fun outings, took me to temple for the Jewish holidays, introduced me to much cooler music than I had ever heard."

"We had 11 truly joyful years of the deepest love, happiest marriage, and truest partnership that I could imagine . . . He gave me the experience of being deeply understood, truly supported and completely and utterly loved—and I will carry that with me always. Most importantly, he gave me the two most amazing children in the world."

"Dave was my rock. When I got upset, he stayed calm. When I was worried, he said it would be ok. When I wasn't sure what to do, he figured it out. He was completely dedicated to his children in every way—and their strength these past few days is the best sign I could have that Dave is still here with us in spirit."

"Dave and I did not get nearly enough time together. But as heartbroken as I am today, I am equally grateful. Even in these last few days of completely unexpected hell—the darkest and saddest moments of my life—I know how lucky I have been. If the day I walked down that aisle with Dave someone had told me that this would happen—that he would be taken from us all in just 11 years—I would still have walked down that aisle. Because 11 years of being Dave Goldberg's wife, and 10 years of being a parent with him is perhaps more luck and more happiness than I could have ever imagined. I am grateful for every minute we had."

"As we put the love of my life to rest today, we buried only his body. His spirit, his soul, his amazing ability to give is still with us. It lives on in the stories people are sharing of how he touched their lives, in the love that is visible in the eyes of our family and friends, in the spirit and resilience of our children. Things will never be the same—but the world is better for the years my beloved husband lived."

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in extending our deepest condolences to Dave's wife Sheryl Sandberg, to their children, his mother, brother and entire family and many friends. As President Obama said in his message of condolence, "His skills as an entrepreneur created opportunity for many, his love for his family was a joy to behold, and his example as a husband and father was something we could all learn from. We're heartbroken by him leaving us far too soon, but we celebrate a remarkable legacy."

Our community, our country and our world are stronger and better because of the life and work of Dave Goldberg. May this tribute and the thoughts and prayers of countless others be a source of comfort and strength to his beloved Sheryl, their children and all the family.

HONORING MAJOR GENERAL R.
MARTIN UMBARGER

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Major General R. Martin Umbarger and wish him well upon his retirement from the Indiana National Guard. Since his initial appointment on March 11, 2004, Major General Umbarger has undertaken great responsibility as Adjutant General of Indiana, commanding the Indiana Army and Air National Guard and the Indiana Guard Reserve, as well as more than 15,800 state employees. In recognition of his outstanding accomplishments and distinguished career, a retirement reception in his honor will be held on Saturday, May 30, 2015, at JW Marriott in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Major General Umbarger began his remarkable military career with the Indiana Army National Guard in 1969. Upon graduating from the Indiana Military Academy in June 1971, where he earned the Distinguished Graduate Erickson Trophy, Major General Umbarger was commissioned as a second lieutenant, infantry branch. Prior to his present position, he served as deputy commanding general for the reserve component, United States Forces Command. Other significant assignments include the assistant division commander for training, 38th Infantry Division (Mechanized), and commanding general of the 76th Infantry Brigade (Separate).

Major General Umbarger is also a graduate of the University of Evansville, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in business. He also completed studies at the United States Command and General Staff College, as well as the United States Army War College.

A testament to his commitment to his duties, Major General Umbarger has been honored with many prestigious awards and accolades. He is the recipient of the Legion of Merit (2nd Award), the Meritorious Service Medal (Oak Leaf Cluster), the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (7th Award), the National Defense Service Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal (with one hourglass device), the Army Service Ribbon, the Army Reserve Components Service Ribbon, the Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon, the Army Staff Identification Badge, the Indiana Long Service Medal, the Indiana Emergency Service Medal, and the Indiana Distinguished Service Medal (Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster). In 2007, Major General Umbarger was also presented the Distinguished Alumnus Award from his alma mater, the University of Evansville.

Major General Umbarger has also exhibited his extraordinary leadership abilities in serving as a member of the Reserve Forces Policy Board and the National Guard Association of the United States, which he chaired from 2006 until 2008. He has also served as a principal member of the Army Reserve Forces Policy Committee and is a member of the Association of the United States Army, Indiana Chapter.

Major General Umbarger's civilian achievements are no less noteworthy. He is president

of Roy Umbarger and Sons, a fourth generation, family-owned and operated business located in central Indiana that provides custom services to the local agricultural community. In conjunction with his civilian career and passion for his community, Major General Umbarger has participated on numerous boards within the community including the Johnson County Animal Shelter Advisory Board and the Indiana Feed and Grain Association, for which he is a past director and chairman. He also currently serves on the Board of Trustees for both Johnson Memorial Hospital and Franklin College.

Major General Umbarger's exceptional military and civilian career and passionate dedication to his community are exceeded only by his devotion to his family. The General and his loving wife of many years, Rowana, have one son, Jackson, two daughters, Erica and Trista, and eight beautiful grandchildren.

I have been privileged to work with Marty over these many years. He is a man of unsurpassed talent who is guided by a strong moral compass and a profound sense of duty. His work has enriched each of us and I am doubly fortunate because he is also my friend.

Mr. Speaker, at this time, I ask that you and my other colleagues join me in honoring Major General R. Martin Umbarger for his outstanding contributions and unwavering dedication to the State of Indiana. He has served the state with distinction, and for this he is to be commended.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NIKI TSONGAS

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast votes from May 18–May 21st due to a family commitment.

Had I been present, I would have voted against H.R. 2250, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act. Republicans have chosen to fund the Department of Defense at higher funding levels at the expense of funding for other agencies already squeezed by strict sequestration rules. Although I support some of the provisions in this legislation, I oppose the manner with which Republicans have decided to prioritize spending for the country.

I would have voted in favor of H.R. 2353, the Highway and Transportation Funding Act of 2015. The strength and vitality of our nation's infrastructure is critical to our economic competitiveness. The Highway Trust Fund provides federal support for transportation projects on the state level in order to maintain a modern, efficient, and reliable transportation infrastructure. These projects also support local job creation and economic development. However, I am extremely dismayed that H.R. 2353 only extends authorization for the Highway Trust Fund for two months and does not address long term funding challenges. Congress must pass a bipartisan, long-term funding solution for the Highway Trust Fund.

I would have voted against H.R. 1806, the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act. Since its enactment, the America COMPETES Act has bolstered our nation's science and energy competitiveness through increased investment in research and development and

STEM education. Unfortunately, instead of simply reauthorizing this bipartisan program, this bill undermines critical investments in science, technology, and research.

I would have voted against H.R. 880, the American Research and Competitiveness Act. While I am a strong supporter of making the Research and Development tax credit permanent, I do not support this legislation because this unpaid-for tax measure would add an estimated \$181.6 billion to the deficit over 10 years.

I would have voted against H.R. 2262, the SPACE Act of 2015. While I support the development of the commercial space industry, this legislation does not strike the appropriate balance between the needs of the industry and overall safety of the programs for the general public and future customers.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF CAPTAIN JOHN J. LEVULIS

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Captain John J. Levulis. Captain Levulis proudly served our nation since 2012 in the U.S. Army, including one tour in Afghanistan. Nicknamed by his fellow soldiers as "Captain America," Captain Levulis epitomized the leadership, courage, and nobility of a true American hero.

Captain Levulis was commissioned into the U.S. Army as a second lieutenant in 2012, following his graduation from the Niagara University ROTC program. He completed the Infantry Basic Officer course at Fort Benning, Georgia. Following basic training, Captain Levulis was reassigned to the 2nd Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment at Fort Drum in New York, where he served as a heavy weapons platoon leader. He was deployed to Afghanistan in May of 2013 as a platoon leader and returned in 2014. After returning from Afghanistan, Captain Levulis was again stationed at Fort Drum.

Captain Levulis received numerous awards including the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Unit Commendation, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Overseas Service Medal, NATO Meritorious Service Medal, Combat Infantry Badge, and the Parachutist Badge.

On May 1st, Captain Levulis tragically lost his life in a motor vehicle accident while on duty in New Jersey. He leaves behind his loving wife, Julianne, mother, Barbara, father, Gary, and younger brother, James. My condolences go out to Captain Levulis' entire family and friends. New York State and our nation has lost a valiant soldier, honorable citizen, and first-rate man in Captain John J. Levulis.

TRIBUTE TO STAFF SERGEANT WILLIE C. JONES

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Staff

Sergeant Willie C. Jones of the U.S. Army Reserves, who was awarded the Purple Heart for his sacrifice for our country.

After being born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and growing up in Hawaii, Staff Sergeant Jones entered the Army in February 1994. He served in combat arms units on active duty for seven years before transferring to the Army Reserves. His first assignment in the Army Reserves was in the 100th Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment, the only infantry unit in the Army Reserves.

Staff Sergeant Jones served in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from November 2008 to August 2009. In October 2012, he deployed to FOB Ghazni in Afghanistan as a Combat Sustainment Support Battalion Liaison NCO.

While serving at FOB Ghazni, Staff Sergeant Jones sustained significant injuries as a result of explosions due to enemy fire on June 18, 2013.

In addition to the Purple Heart, Staff Sergeant Jones has received the Combat Action Badge, 6 Army Commendation Medals, 7 Good Conduct Medals, 2 NATO Medals, 8 Overseas Bars, Iraq and Afghanistan Campaign Medals, the Gold Recruiter Badge with three sapphires, and the Army Recruiting Ring.

Staff Sergeant Jones currently resides in Decatur, Illinois, and works as a Movements Supervisor with the 236th Inland Cargo Transfer Company. I'm proud to honor him for receiving the Purple Heart, and am humbled by his bravery, service and sacrifice for our nation.

CONGRESSIONAL MOLDOVA CAUCUS STATEMENT ON THE RIGA SUMMIT

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself, the Honorable DAVID E. PRICE, and the Congressional Moldova Caucus, the Republic of Moldova is a friend of the United States of America, and a partner country of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Like Ukraine and Georgia, Moldova is part of a strategically significant segment of Eastern Europe that looks toward Europe for a promising and prosperous future.

The full integration of Moldova into the European Union is also in the strategic interest of the United States. As has been the case with other Eastern European nations that fully integrated into the European Union, integration will help Moldova develop new economic opportunities and contribute to the overall security and stability of the region.

The Republic of Moldova signed an Association Agreement with the European Union in 2014 and is currently implementing its ambitious Free Trade Agreement (DCFTA). Moldova also reached a visa liberalization agreement with the EU.

As the EU Summit in Riga convenes, we call on our allies in Europe to fully engage the Republic of Moldova and to chart out its bid for accession into the Union under the terms of the Lisbon Treaty. A failure to fully recognize the aspirations and legal rights of the Republic of Moldova in its application only stands

to promote the false narrative that Moldova, along with Ukraine and Georgia, falls into an 'exclusive sphere of Russian interests in Europe', and runs counter to the democratic values of the United States and Europe.

Congress and the Obama Administration should continue to support the Republic of Moldova in its statecraft, economic and security capabilities. Progress demonstrated by the Republic of Moldova on a sustained path towards Western integration should be recognized. For example, despite Moldova's entering into an Association Agreement with the European Union, the Russian Federation continues to ban imports of Moldovan products, exert pressure on the Moldovan people, and disseminate propaganda to the Moldovan people. The Russian Federation continues to maintain a substantial military presence in Transnistria, in violation the Russian Federation's commitments at the Istanbul Summit. The Russian Federation continues to use this military presence—along with its fuel exports and intelligence assets within Moldovan territory—to continually destabilize the region.

Smaller and more fragile states across the globe face increasing pressure, destabilization and aggression from larger, totalitarian governments. These states are susceptible to falling into 'regional spheres of influence' without sustained, consolidated efforts of support by the world's democracies. Last Congress, the House and Senate both passed resolutions calling on the Obama Administration to support the Republic of Moldova's capabilities in reforming its judicial sector, fighting corruption, and reforming economic markets. In addition to continuing in these important reforms, we urge the Obama Administration to work in bilateral and multilateral forums to monitor human rights abuses in the region and help advance U.S. investment in Moldova's energy markets to lessen its dependence on Russian sources. We are struck by the Moldovan people's demonstrated commitments to free markets, democracy, and the rule of law. The United States must continue to serve as a leader in the community of Western nations by supporting the people of Moldova in their commitment toward integration.

HIGHLIGHTING SUMMER MEAL PARTNERS INAUGURAL EVENT ON MAY 30, 2015

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring much-needed attention to summer meal programs for food insecure families. A new collaboration of community organizations in Lucas County, Ohio called Summer Meal Partners is working to raise awareness and increase participation in summer meal programs in that county. This group can be a model for similar collaborative efforts supporting underserved communities around the country. Summer Meal Partners will hold their official kickoff event on May 30th of this year.

Today in Lucas County just eight percent of the 54,135 children that are eligible for free or reduced price school meals participate in readily-available summer meal support. This support could make a real difference in the

lives of tens of thousands more families but a lack of awareness, transportation and enrichment programming have limited participation.

Families without reliable access to sufficient affordable nutritious food face increased health, mental and behavioral issues.

Hunger undermines a child's ability to learn. Malnutrition and vitamin deficiencies also put children at risk for serious and permanent problems with attention, cognition and behavior. They undermine natural growth and development and lead to compromised immune systems.

With most primary school students on break, the summer can be a challenging time for working parents. Relief is available in the form of summer meals but only a small fraction of eligible families take advantage of this important initiative.

I congratulate Summer Meal Partners for their important work and for their upcoming kickoff on May 30, 2015.

HONORING DR. ALLEN CHAN

HON. SCOTT H. PETERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Speaker, every May we celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, a time to commemorate the significant contributions of the AAPI communities to our country.

This year, I am honored to recognize one of San Diego's community leaders, Dr. Allen Chan.

Dr. Chan was born in Hong Kong, and immigrated to the United States more than 40 years ago.

He was a charter president of the San Diego United Lions Club, is an accomplished chiropractor, and is the owner of the renowned local institution Jasmine Seafood Restaurant, which has served as a cultural heart in San Diego's Asian American community.

Dr. Chan was recently awarded the prestigious, and highly selective, Ellis Island Medal of Honor for his legacy of community service centered around preserving history, traditions, and values, and paying homage to the immigrant experience as an integral part of American culture.

I want to congratulate Dr. Chan, and thank him for his leadership in the AAPI community and for helping make San Diego a better place to live.

CONGRATULATING THE SARCOXIE ARCHERY TEAMS ON THEIR STATE AND NATIONAL TITLES

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Sarcoxie High School Archery Team on another Missouri state championship. This victory marks the Bears' third straight state title.

The Bears competed against 88 other schools from across Missouri with nearly 1,400 contestants. The team took the high

school division title with a total of 3,367 points. Sarcoxie's archery program also added to their success this year with the middle school team placing 3rd in the middle school division. Sarcoxie competed against schools of all sizes, from the tiny and rural to the massive and urban. This small southwest Missouri school has proven again that size does not matter when it comes to talent, dedication and perseverance.

Individually, Sarcoxie's Zane White took second place in the state high school division with 293 points and Gavin Currey finished a close fourth with 290 points. Annika Johnson, Jordyn Kirby and Elizabeth Workman all finished in the top 15, further helping shoot Sarcoxie to first place.

Coaches Kaycia and David Woolsey deserve praise for successfully aiming the team toward their bullseye—a first place finish. Much effort goes into teaching skills to go the distance. That shows especially this year, as many on the Sarcoxie team were first-year competing archers. Only five were on the previous championship team.

In addition, Sarcoxie had their first national archery champion this year at the National NASP IBO 3D Challenge. Fifth grader, Max Wangler was the national champion from among 483 elementary boys. Max's teammate, Drake Acheson, placed third.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Sarcoxie High School Archery Team on a job well done. I look forward to seeing their continued success.

HONORING LIBRARIAN DIANE CHRISTIAN OF AURORA, ILLINOIS

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Diane Christian as she prepares for retirement after more than 40 years of service to the Aurora Public Library in Aurora, Illinois.

Diane Christian is a cherished figure in the City of Aurora, who has fostered a love of books and learning for many generations of young people. Starting as a part-time librarian in 1974, Diane later became the library's Children's Department Coordinator where she has played a critical role in the intellectual development of children throughout the community. In 2002, Diane launched the Welcome to America program that offers family literacy services to refugees from around the world and has served over 850 parents and children.

Diane is also an active volunteer in our community; she currently is a member of the Child Welfare Society and the Aurora Township Youth Commission. During her retirement, Diane intends to continue volunteering for the Aurora Public Library and helping with the transition to its new location.

I would like to thank Diane for her decades of commitment to the Aurora Public Library and wish her the best in her retirement.

HONORING LEO FINNEGAN

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a champion and leader from the State of Washington, Leo Finnegan.

Whether it's serving on community advisory boards, helping a parent navigate bureaucratic difficulties or organizing recreational activities for those with special needs, Leo Finnegan has been, and will continue to be, a deliberate and enthusiastic voice for the developmental disability community.

Leo and his wife Rose first moved to Washington State in 1975 with their five children, one of whom has special needs, Tim. When his son was unable to participate in Soap Box Derby Races with his other children, Leo took it upon himself to construct a two passenger car so the entire family could share in the fun together. This act sparked an idea to organize races for other children with special needs. He now organizes and oversees races every summer throughout Washington State in Issaquah, Sammamish, Snoqualmie, Richland, Spokane, and Oak Harbor. My godson Kyle and I were able to participate in one race several years ago, which is one of the many times I've had the opportunity to see firsthand Leo's work in our community. Leo also coaches the Special Olympics Basketball team in Washington. Through his work, Leo has touched thousands of lives, giving individuals with special needs recreational opportunities that enrich lives and strengthen families.

Mr. Speaker, Leo's actions embody the heart of a servant. I thank Leo for his passionate commitment to serving those with special needs.

AMERICA COMPETES REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1806) to provide for technological innovation through the prioritization of Federal investment in basic research, fundamental scientific discovery, and development to improve the competitiveness of the United States, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, in 2007, following reports that the United States could lose its competitive edge in the global economy, Congress came together on a bipartisan basis to boost federal research, spur American innovation, and maintain our strength in scientific and technological discovery. We reauthorized that bill, again on a bipartisan basis, in 2010.

Unfortunately, today we have a bill on the floor that abandons those bipartisan efforts, shortchanges critical research, and unacceptably interferes in decision-making at our scientific institutions. It makes particularly egregious cuts to climate change research and efforts to develop new energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies for a cleaner energy future. Climate change is real and we are

already seeing its impacts across the country. But it also provides economic opportunity, if we invest in R&D to develop new renewable sources and efficiency technologies. This bill would jeopardize American innovation in this critical area.

Today's bill also meddles in decision-making at our federal research institutions, decreasing funding at certain directorates at the National Science Foundation and imposing new requirements in the grant-making process. Our science agencies have a robust review process in place to fund the most critical research. Politics should have no part in that process.

Unlike earlier America COMPETES bills that were built on broad consensus, HR 1806 is opposed by the vast majority of our nation's scientific community. I urge my colleagues to listen to these scientists and bring forward a bill that invests in American innovation and supports the cutting-edge research necessary to maintain our leadership in the world.

SUPPORTING THE PEOPLE OF NEPAL

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, after the massive earthquake shook Nepal, Eric Jean and Della Hoffman were stranded on a remote trail with a group of other backpackers. Friends of theirs from their time in college at Rice University, which is in my district, contacted my office for help. We worked with the State Department to set them free. Five days after the earthquake, Special Forces came to the village and rescued them.

Ms. Hoffman would later recall, "I don't think we even knew what was happening until some of the villagers ran out of the hut and then, immediately after that, the boulders just started coming down from both sides of the canyon, including into the village and on top of the houses."

Six U.S. Marines and two Nepalese soldiers sacrificed their lives attempting to save others just like Eric and Della when their helicopter crashed.

I stand with my colleagues in support of House Resolution 235, and urge the administration to work with the Nepal government and the international community to deliver aid quickly, easily, and with long-term rebuilding in mind.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING BUENA VISTA WINERY'S WINE TOOL MUSEUM

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Buena Vista Winery on the occasion of the opening of their new, first-of-its-kind Wine Tool Museum. The oldest premium winery in the United States, Buena Vista has been in operation since 1857 when a Hungarian immigrant, Count Agoston Haraszthy, established the vineyards and built

the winery. Over the intervening years, the winery has had a colorful history, passing through many hands before ultimately being purchased by Jean-Charles Boisset in 2011. Boisset immediately hatched a plan to turn the property around that eventually culminated in the creation of the Wine Tool Museum, which officially opened to the public on March 24, 2015.

The Boisset family already had an impressive wine tool collection when Jean-Charles's sister encountered a man in Burgundy looking for a buyer for his enormous thirty thousand item collection of wine tools. With the combination of Boisset family implements and the new acquisitions, the Museum's collection encompasses items as diverse as antique plows and blades, secateurs, and wine harvest baskets.

Along with its impressive collection of tools, the Museum guides visitors through history with an educational film that traces winemaking in the region from the early days of Haraszthy through the plague of phylloxera. The first of its kind museum tells the story of California's wine community. People will not only be able see, but also learn about, the tools that brought wine from the vine to the bottle a century and a half ago.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting and proper that we honor Buena Vista Winery at this time. Its commitment to not only preserving viticultural history, but demonstrating the evolution of the profession, will help increase awareness and appreciation for California and Sonoma's long history of winemaking.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF DEPUTY SHERIFF JOSE ALVARADO

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of José "Joey" Alvarado to the community of Wayne County, New York. Deputy Sheriff Alvarado has given 30 years of dedicated service to the Wayne County Sheriff's Office. In his role as Deputy Sheriff, he has played an essential role in safeguarding the rights and freedoms of the residents of his county.

Throughout his 30 years of service to the Wayne County Sheriff's Office, Deputy Sheriff Joey Alvarado has consistently performed with professionalism and dedication, working towards the goal of making his community a safer place.

Since 1985, Deputy Sheriff Joey Alvarado has served as a Jailor/Dispatcher, Correction Officer, and Deputy Sheriff. During his tenure as Deputy Sheriff, he was also assigned to the Sheriff's Office Special Investigation Unit. He has made an outstanding contribution through his career as Deputy Sheriff to the quality of life for all Wayne County residents.

I commend Deputy Sheriff Alvarado's sacrifice and contribution to the Wayne County community and wish him the very best in his retirement.

HONORING PENNSYLVANIA CYSTIC FIBROSIS, INC. (PACFI)

HON. TOM MARINO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in order to congratulate Pennsylvania Cystic Fibrosis, Inc. (PACFI) for 30 years of work in raising Cystic Fibrosis awareness and funding Cystic Fibrosis research efforts. PACFI is an independent, non-profit, all volunteer organization that provides crucial services and much needed support for Pennsylvania families affected by Cystic Fibrosis.

PACFI was founded on October 2, 1985. The PACFI organization is unique in that they do not have a paid staff and operate solely with volunteers. This allows PACFI to use 100% of donations they receive to provide benefits for Pennsylvania families such as paying for emergency and other medical expenses.

PACFI also works to fund Cystic Fibrosis research around the country. To date, they have raised more than \$565,000 for institutions and universities that are on the leading edge of Cystic Fibrosis research. These donations are helping to discover better treatment options and will hopefully lead to a cure.

PACFI is doing excellent work in Pennsylvania on one of the most common and fatal genetic diseases. Cystic Fibrosis affects approximately 1 in 2000 people and their life expectancy is only 35 years. I commend PACFI for doing great work in the field of Cystic Fibrosis research and supporting families that need assistance with the costs of Cystic Fibrosis treatment.

CONGRATULATING SOFIA VICTORIA DE LA PENA ON FOUNDING THE FIT KIDS DAY NON-PROFIT

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sofia Victoria de la Pena on her work founding Fit Kids Day, and establishing the group in the South Florida community.

Sofia Victoria was a ninth grader at Carrollton School of the Sacred Heart in Coconut Grove, FL when she recognized an increased need for health programs for children. She wanted to add to the work being done to combat childhood obesity, and came up with a plan. Her idea was an entire day focused on fitness, which became known as Fit Kids Day.

To get the event started, Sofia Victoria reached out to leading students at other schools to be ambassadors for the program. The students walked throughout their neighborhoods, to spread awareness for the event and attract community support. Local businesses chipped in to help with the first event, providing services and food to the participants, which were offered free of charge. Since the first Fit Kids Day, the program has expanded, and multiple cities have organized their own events. In these cities, mayors or city managers organize a day of activities that are popular in their area.

Fit Kids Day caught on as an event, and is now a nonprofit organization. The Presidential Fitness Counsel has since talked to Sofia Victoria about using the Fit Kids Day model for their organization. The event was created by kids, for kids, and offers many leadership opportunities. In addition, the program has helped introduce fitness ideas and plans to less fortunate communities.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to congratulate Sofia Victoria de la Pena on her accomplishment, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing her outstanding achievement. It is an honor to know a family that continues to work hard to improve their community every day.

**HONORING DAVIESS COUNTY, KY,
ON CELEBRATING ITS BICENTEN-
NIAL**

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Daviess County, Kentucky, on celebrating its bicentennial.

Daviess County came into its existence on June 1, 1815, through an Act of the Kentucky General Assembly. But on May 30, 2015, Daviess County will begin to celebrate its 200th birthday.

Daviess County lies in the Western Kentucky Coalfield region and is also an oil producer. Bounded by the Ohio River, it serves as an important trade and transportation artery—making it a major manufacturing center, transportation hub and U.S. Customs Port of Entry on the Ohio River. It is also a leader in health care, medical research and pharmaceutical experimentation.

The keystone celebration, on May 30th, includes an early morning 5 k run/walk at the Mount Saint Joseph Motherhouse of the Ursuline Sisters. Activities for people of all ages will take place around the Courthouse Square, and the day will end with a reception and the opening of a special Bicentennial Art Exhibit at the Owensboro Museum of Fine Art.

Other activities will include honoring African Americans from Daviess County who served in the Union Army during the Civil War with the dedication of an historic highway marker on the Courthouse lawn. There will also be a series of Bicentennial-related programs at the Daviess County Public Library throughout the summer.

A new history of Daviess County, Kentucky, *Celebrating Our Heritage*, has been published and highlights many aspects of daily life in the county. Among these topics is Daviess County's rich history in the agriculture industry—citing corn, soybean and tobacco producers.

Daviess County is the home to some of Kentucky's great colleges and universities, including: Brescia University, Kentucky Wesleyan College, a campus of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System and a branch of Western Kentucky University.

It is important to also highlight the leadership in Daviess County and all their efforts to make this a successful and thriving community. Thank you for making Daviess County what it is today.

I encourage everyone in Kentucky's Second District to join in the festivities to celebrate the

rich history and traditions of Daviess County. I congratulate all who live and serve the county and look forward to taking part in some of these celebrations myself. Here's to many more years of success.

**ADVANCING RESEARCH FOR
HYDROCEPHALUS PATIENTS**

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to legislation I introduced last week, the Advancing Research for Hydrocephalus Act, and urge my colleagues to cosponsor this important bill. My new legislation—which is supported by the national Hydrocephalus Association—will facilitate better research into this devastating condition by requiring the collection of demographic information on the hydrocephalus community.

Hydrocephalus, which is defined as an abnormal accumulation of cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) within cavities in the brain, can cause brain damage, vision issues, and extreme pain for those affected.

One of those affected, Adrienne D'Oria, a 22 year old from my Congressional District, has suffered from hydrocephalus since she was 10 months old. In addition to the excruciating pain, complications from shunt malfunctions, dozens of brain surgeries and hundreds of hospital visits have essentially eliminated any chance of a normal childhood. Hydrocephalus continues to limit her options for the future:

All of my friends, everyone I went to school with is graduating and starting the next stage in their life. I can't do that," she said recently. "I had to withdraw from so many classes because of hospital admissions and all the surgeries. Even though I've been out of high school for four years I only have the credits of a freshman. My friends are graduating and I'm stuck in limbo. I can't control it.

Unfortunately for Adrienne and thousands like her, the most common treatment for hydrocephalus remains a surgically-inserted shunt. Shunts drain the fluid from the brain through the neck and into other parts of the body. They frequently become blocked, malfunction, or cause infection. In almost half of all cases in children, the shunt fails within the first two years. When they do, patients must immediately locate a medical facility and a neurosurgeon who can correct the problem. This precarious situation is a constant source of fear for those who suffer from hydrocephalus and their families. In fact, hydrocephalus is the most common reason for brain surgery in children.

The scientific and medical communities not only have very few resources that can help them in understanding this condition, they are not even aware of the true impact of this disorder. Without better data and research, they cannot develop more effective treatments.

Mr. Speaker, there are some estimates that this condition affects roughly one million Americans. Yet given that hydrocephalus can occur either congenitally or be acquired, oftentimes through infection or traumatic brain injury, reporting of hydrocephalus has been inconsistent. Currently no mechanism exists to

identify and track persons with hydrocephalus who develop the condition after birth. As a result, we do not have a good grasp on the demographics of hydrocephalus patients.

My bill provides a remedy. The Advancing Research for Hydrocephalus Act will establish a National Hydrocephalus Surveillance System (NHSS) to collect information on the incidence and prevalence of hydrocephalus among a range of demographics, including changes in epidemiology over time. This surveillance system would provide a wealth of data for researchers. Better surveillance will facilitate better research and lead to better outcomes, treatment and care for the infants, children, and adults experiencing the agonizing pain of hydrocephalus.

So I urge my colleagues to support my legislation to help provide assistance and raise the quality of life for individuals, like Adrienne, who are suffering from this condition.

**IN RECOGNITION OF EAST HAR-
LEM COUNCIL FOR HUMAN SER-
VICES, CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF
SERVICE**

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker I rise today to give recognition to the East Harlem Council for Human Services, which is celebrating 50 years of serving the local community. The work done by the Council has been vital to our community and has changed the lives of so many for decades. Groups like the Council and institutions like the Boriken Care Center are worth fighting for, and I will continue to make sure there are adequate resources available for them to continue to thrive and serve their community.

I am proud to honor the East Harlem Council for Human Services which was incorporated in 1965 though grass-roots efforts of local East Harlem residents committed to addressing unmet needs in their community. The Council is a multi-service not-for-profit which coordinates an array of affordable and no cost services to more than 10,000 individuals each year without regard for an individual's ability to pay for services. The Board of Directors and more than almost 200 staff members are united in a commitment to the Council's mission of providing the highest quality of comprehensive, community-based, fully bilingual services to the East Harlem community.

The Council is the largest grass-roots, multi-service not-for-profit in our East Harlem community. By continuing its strong history of diverse community-based leadership, and commitment to the self-determination of this institution and the East Harlem community at large, the Council has positioned itself for continued growth. The Council continuously renews its commitment to the residents of El Barrio to ensure that the Boriken Neighborhood Health Center and its sister programs will continue to provide affordable quality comprehensive services in East Harlem for many more decades.

There's no finer work than fighting to bring health and essential wellness to those struggling to make ends meet in underserved communities. Everyone deserves access to quality

care within their community and we are proud to have the East Harlem Council for Human Services serving us.

CONGRATULATING REV. DR. MICHAEL L. PFLEGER ON HIS 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PRIESTHOOD

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my congratulations to Rev. Dr. Michael Louis Pfleger, the Senior Pastor at Saint Sabina Church in Chicago on his 40th Anniversary of the priesthood. I am sincerely thankful for the forty years of his devotion to community service and endless effort in fighting social injustice.

Michael Louis Pfleger was ordained a Catholic Priest for the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago on May 14, 1975 and since 1981 has been Pastor of the mostly African American Parish of Saint Sabina, a Catholic church in Chicago's Auburn Gresham Neighborhood. His uninterrupted tenure in just one neighborhood is normally unheard of in a diocese where Pastors usually serve for only six to twelve years. When he was appointed to his present position, at the age of 31, he became the youngest Pastor in Chicago Archdiocese. Under Pfleger's leadership, Saint Sabina has established an outstanding social service program including job programs, conflict resolution, Employment Resource Center, a Social Service Center, and also an elder home.

Father Pfleger has adopted three sons, and led efforts to curb drug and alcohol use, especially among teenagers. He has led protests of all kind, encourages people to register and vote, take positions on all kind of controversial issues, always on the side of the people. He has fought against the proliferation of hand guns and hold regular lecture series at Saint Sabina featuring individuals like Reverend Jesse Jackson, Reverend Al Sharpton, Reverend Jeremiah Wright, Dick Gregory, Minister Louis Farrakhan, Reverend Joseph Lowery, Harry Belafonte and others. He has called out disrespectful rappers, embraced salvation for prostitutes, defied the Cardinal and pushed for the Ordination of women as Priests. Michael Louis Pfleger, a man among men, a Priest among Priests, a force for good, a friend to humanity, my brother and a Servant of God.

ASTHMA AWARENESS MONTH

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, May is Asthma Awareness Month. As co-chair of the Congressional Asthma and Allergy Caucus and a senior member of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce's Health Subcommittee, I want to take this opportunity to bring attention to asthma's prevalence in the United States, as well as what must be done to control its growth.

Asthma is one of the most serious chronic diseases in the U.S., affecting almost 26 million Americans and nearly 7 million children. It can cause shortness of breath, coughing, wheezing, chest pain, and even death.

In my home state of New York, asthma takes a particularly heavy toll—especially in my hometown of the Bronx. About 390,000 children and 1.4 million adults in New York have asthma. The total cost of asthma-related hospitalizations in New York in 2007 was a staggering \$535 million. The Bronx, where I was born and raised and am proud to represent part of, has one of the highest rates of asthma-related emergency room visits in all of New York.

These statistics are even more alarming when looking specifically at minority and low-income populations. Children from poor households are twice as likely as their more affluent peers to be diagnosed with asthma. In addition, asthma rates among African American children increased by 50 percent between 2001 and 2009.

Asthma's prevalence costs children and adults dearly with regard to quality of life. However, it carries an economic cost as well. The direct medical costs of asthma treatment, coupled with absences from work and school, result in losses of more than \$56 billion annually. Children additionally suffer academically, as asthma causes about 14 million student absences each year.

While asthma can be treated and managed, it is too often not managed properly. Asthma sufferers require regular check-ups, asthma management plans, and access to both maintenance and fast acting inhalers. People with persistent asthma must be tested for allergies so they can learn what triggers might cause an asthma attack. Furthermore, environmental triggers in homes and schools, such as mold, dust, animal dander, pests, toxic chemicals, and excessive moisture must be eliminated.

Congress must also work to reduce asthma rates. A little over five years ago, Congress passed and President Obama signed into law the Affordable Care Act, which prohibited insurance companies from denying coverage to people with pre-existing conditions, like asthma. While this was a terrific stride, more efforts are needed here in Washington.

I have been a strong supporter of the Centers for Disease Control's National Asthma Control Program, which helps states implement systems to monitor and treat asthma. This Program's work has resulted in a \$23.1 billion decline in asthma health care costs since 2001. In addition, deaths related to asthma have dropped by 24 percent since the Program's inception in 1999. Earlier this year, I wrote a letter asking appropriators to fund the National Asthma Control Program at \$30.6 million in Fiscal Year 2016.

While financial support for this Program is vital, we cannot rely on funding alone to solve the problems that asthma causes. We must continue to increase awareness of preventative measures to help people manage their disease. In addition, we must work collaboratively across sectors to address the burden that asthma creates.

I look forward to continuing to work to ensure that adults and children across the United States can live healthier and more successful lives.

CHRISTOPHER BOULANGER

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Mr. Christopher Boulanger as a member of the United States Air Force Academy Class of 2015.

Christopher will graduate from the U.S. Air Force Academy as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Air Force on May 28, 2015.

His career in the service has just begun, but it is a testament to Christopher's unselfish devotion to the people of this great nation. The challenges will be many and the time, although it may seem like an eternity, will fly by almost unnoticed.

The challenge for this young man will be to retain as much as possible, pass on what he learns to others, and live life for every moment.

South Mississippi is proud of Christopher and his accomplishments, and we look forward to him continuing to represent not only Mississippi, but the entire nation, as a United States Air Force officer.

As Christopher embarks on a new chapter in life, it is my hope that he may always recall with a deep sense of pride and accomplishment graduating from a program as prestigious as the Air Force Academy.

I would like to send Christopher my best wishes for continued success in his future endeavors, thank him for his service, and congratulate him on this momentous occasion.

REMEMBERING THE SACRIFICES OF THE FALLEN HEROES ON MEMORIAL DAY

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember all those brave and heroic men and women of the Armed Forces who gave the last full measure of devotion in defense of our country.

Each May, veteran and service organizations come together to hold events around the country to demonstrate their gratitude to current and former men and women in uniform and their families for their service to our country.

The month of May is a time when a grateful nation acknowledges and affirms the debt owed to those brave men and women who risked their lives to preserve the freedoms we too often take for granted.

It is important that we recognize and celebrate the tremendous role military personnel have played across the globe.

Texas is home to more than 130,000 active military personnel and more than 1,600,000 veterans, 30,000 of which are from the 18th Congressional District of Texas.

It has been an honor to represent these constituents and I am extremely proud of their service.

As we acknowledge our former, current and future military men and women, it is essential that we provide them with the resources necessary to help wounded warriors, veterans, and their families' transition to civilian life.

That is why I was proud to cosponsor and help shepherd to passage H.R. 1344, Helping Heroes Fly Act, that was signed into law in 2013 and which facilitates expedited passenger screening at airports for service members who are severely injured or disabled, along with their families.

I also introduced H.R. 76, the "Helping to Encourage Real Opportunity for Veterans Transitioning from Battlespace to Workplace Act of 2015," which provides strong incentives for employers to hire, retain, and employ veterans in positions that take maximum advantage of their skills and experience.

Mr. Speaker, in closing I recognize by the name the 53 brave men and women from my home city of Houston, who served in Iraq and Afghanistan and gave the last full measure of devotion to their country.

They are: Krystal Fitts, Jorge Luis Velasquez, Cody Norris, Jacob Molina, Pedro Maldonado, Eduardo Loreda, Matthew Catlett, Zarian Wood, Andrew Roughton, Edgar Heredia, Joshua Molina, Steven Candelo, Scott McIntosh, Orlando Perez, Jeremy Ray, Benjamin Garrison, Rodney Johnson, Matthew Medlicott, Alan Austin, William Edwards, Eric Salinas, Danny Soto, Roy Jones, Terrence Dunn, Hector Leija, David Fraser, Benjamin Rosales, Kenneth Pugh, Alberto Sanchez, Walter Moss, Michael Robertson, Howard Babcock, Timothy Roark, Ivica Jerak, Phillip George, Keith Mariotti, Clinton Gertson, Dexter Kimble, Jesus Leon-Perez, Thomas Zapp, Eric Alton, Andrew Houghton, Juan Torres, Pedro Contreras, Adolfo Carballo, Scott Larson, Leroy Sandoval, Armando Soriano, Keelan Moss, A. Esparza-Gutierrez, Tomas Sotelo, Brian Matthew Kennedy, and Brian Craig.

God bless them. And may God bless the United States.

IN RECOGNITION OF MAJOR
MORRIS SHEPHERD

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a remarkable individual for his dedication to the State of Texas. I would like to congratulate and thank Major Morris Shepherd for his hard work and his passion for service. I would also like to applaud his retirement.

Major Shepherd has diligently served as Deputy Director for the Dallas Independent School District's Office of the Director of Army Instruction. His commitment spans many years, beginning with his commission as an Infantry Officer in 1974 from Prairie View A&M University. His service record reflects the hard work, resolve, and passion that he continues to embody and practice to this day.

Since his initial commission, Major Shepherd has progressed through the ranks. Following his graduation as an Airborne Ranger and a Distinguished Military Graduate he attended the United States Infantry Basic Officer's Course at Ft. Benning Georgia. He first served in the 1st Cavalry Division at Ft. Hood, Texas, and then served in the 2nd Infantry Division in the Republic of Korea. Major Shepherd also served as an Assistant Professor of Military Science at Alcorn State University, as a Project Officer, as a Director of Plans, Train-

ing, and Mobilization, as a Logistical Planning Officer for the 1st Cavalry, as an Executive Officer 15th Forward Support Battalion for the 1st Cavalry Division, and as a Director Resident Training Detachment. He finally retired from the U.S. Army after more than 18 years of service. Following his first retirement, Major Shepherd joined the Dallas Independent School District in 1995 serving as the Senior Army Instructor for Franklin D. Roosevelt High School. During his tenure he has received many notable recognitions and awards. From serving the country to serving his community, Major Shepherd's accomplishments have been well noted and appreciated.

His passion and drive are commendable. In our rapidly shifting world and fast-paced lifestyles it is always impressive to find someone like Major Shepherd that gives so generously of their time and effort to positively impact the lives of the people of Texas.

As we reflect on all of Major Shepherd's achievements, it is important to acknowledge that his belief in giving to those around him comes from the genuine patriotism and determination of a remarkable man. I want to express my heartiest congratulations and thanks to Major Morris Shepherd on his outstanding accomplishments, and for his immense contribution to our great country and to the State of Texas.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE OLD DOMINION
BAR ASSOCIATION

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th Anniversary of the Old Dominion Bar Association (ODBA), of which I am proud to be a member. Members will be gathering next week in Glen Allen, Virginia for their annual conference and to celebrate this historic milestone.

The ODBA traces its history to a December 1940 incident where an African American lawyer was asked to move to another section of the law library of the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals. Frederic Charles Carter, Esq. was working in the law library when he was ordered to move to another section because of an alleged new Supreme Court policy limiting African American attorneys to a specific section of the law library. Carter refused to move and the head librarian summoned a police officer to demand Carter see him in his office. Carter later inquired in a letter to the Chief Justice whether the court had indeed issued a new policy relegating African American lawyers to a special section of the law library.

Several months passed with no response from the Court, so Carter began reaching out to fellow African American Attorneys in the Commonwealth of Virginia, including R. H. Cooley, Jr. of Petersburg. Cooley also contacted colleagues in Norfolk, Newport News, and Portsmouth, as well as at the Howard University School of Law, to discuss the need to organize a bar association in Virginia specifically for African American attorneys.

Throughout 1941, Cooley and the following individuals met to organize the ODBA: J. Thomas Hewin, Sr., Roland D. Ealey, James

T. Carter, Fredric Charles Carter, J. Byron Hopkins and Oliver W. Hill of Richmond; W. S. Duiguid of Lynchburg; Martin A. Martin of Danville; Thomas W. Young and J. Eugene Diggs of Norfolk; James Raby of Alexandria; and L. Marian Poe of Newport News.

The organizational meeting for the ODBA was set for April 12, 1942 in Richmond. Twenty-five attorneys attended the organizational meeting where they elected their inaugural officers: Oliver W. Hill, President; L. Marian Poe, Secretary; Martin A. Martin, Vice-President; and James M. Morris (of Staunton), Treasurer.

On May 21, 1942, the new association met again to adopt their constitution and set an annual membership fee of \$4.50. Some balked at the cost which prompted Oliver Hill to include the following message on organization notices: "If you are very, very busy—we need you. If you don't think you can afford it, you need us."

As America became increasingly involved in World War II, many ODBA members, including its president Oliver W. Hill, entered military service to fight for our nation overseas. It was during this time that R. H. Cooley, Jr. became the organization's acting president. Throughout the war, he urged all members to "keep abreast with service legislation in order to aid men and women in uniform and their families in matters pertaining to insurance, dependency allotments and any other phases necessary to solve their perplexing problems." Cooley also urged association members to help returning veterans, including volunteering their legal services when necessary.

By the war's end, there were forty-four active members of the association all across the Commonwealth, with local groups of ODBA members established in Richmond, on the Virginia Peninsula, in South Hampton Roads, and in Northern Virginia.

Originally organized to confront a discriminatory policy that offended the personal and professional dignity of members of the Virginia Bar, it has grown into an essential professional organization for African American attorneys practicing law in the Commonwealth of Virginia. It has not only provided positive professional relationships for its members and trained them to be effective advocates for their clients, but has also broken down barriers to membership and full participation for African American attorneys statewide and in the local bar associations and to their election as judges throughout Virginia. Moreover, its members have led the effort to desegregate America in all areas of public and private life, including education, employment, housing, and public accommodations.

Today, the ODBA continues its strong legacy of pursuing justice and ensuring its member lawyers hold themselves to the highest level of professional skill and conduct. The association holds numerous professional development seminars annually. And its members are very active in other national, state and local bar associations, as well as their local communities in general through community service and active civic engagement.

Mr. Speaker, as the Old Dominion Bar Association gathers in Glen Allen next week for its annual meeting, I wish to congratulate the association's current president, Helivi L. Holland, Esq., and all its members, past and present, on this 75th anniversary and thank them for all that they have done and continue to do on behalf of the legal profession and the

full participation of all in the life and bounties of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the nation as a whole.

HONORING CALIFORNIA'S
GEOTHERMAL INDUSTRY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor California's Geothermal Industry as we celebrate Geothermal Awareness Month. It is important to recognize the success of existing geothermal facilities in California and the great value in promoting the development of new geothermal power, one of California's greatest natural resources.

Geothermal energy is an excellent source of clean, renewable energy that supports thousands of jobs across our district and state. Not only does the production of geothermal energy boost our economy and reduce our dependence on foreign oil, it provides counties with important royalty payments which they use to pay for important priorities like public safety, road maintenance and law enforcement. Furthermore, geothermal energy is critical to California's renewable and low carbon energy goals.

Geothermal energy is locally produced and boosts rural economies through jobs, royalties, tax payments and more. While in development, a geothermal power project will employ hundreds of individuals during construction and post-construction, more than most other renewable technologies. I am proud to represent The Geysers, which lies beneath the surface of Lake and Sonoma Counties, employs 300 full-time employees at Calpine, fifty full-time employees at the Northern California Power Agency's two Geysers power plants and more than 150 contractors. The Geysers is also the largest taxpayer in both Sonoma and Lake Counties.

Geothermal power benefits communities across the state, while providing important environmental benefits. In the south, The Salton Sea Restoration and Renewable Energy Initiative, a plan to save an important source of water and minerals in the state, can add up to 1,700 megawatts of low-impact, cost-competitive geothermal energy to the State's power grid. In the north, the Geysers maximizes the economic and environmental benefits of the resource, and helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions to the equivalent of removing almost half a million cars from the road, meaning cleaner air for local towns and cities.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize May 21, 2015 as Geothermal Awareness Day and honor California's Geothermal Industry for ensuring that new and existing geothermal power is part of a diverse and sustainable energy mix now and in the future.

CELEBRATING THE PUBLIC
SERVICE OF JOSEPH HOUCK

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished public service of Joseph Houck, who retires after 30 years with the Summit Fire Department including seven years as Fire Chief and Director.

Chief Houck obtained an Associate in Applied Science Degree in Fire Science Technology from Union County College. He is a graduate of the National Fire Academy's Executive Fire Officer Program and also completed the New Jersey's Certified Public Manager Program and received a Bachelor of the Arts Degree in Public Administration from Fairleigh Dickinson University.

Chief Houck started with the Summit Fire Department in 1985 as a volunteer firefighter and became a career firefighter in 1987. Due to his dedication and skill he became a recognized leader in the department and was promoted to Lieutenant in 1995, Battalion Chief in 2000, Deputy Chief in 2005 and Chief and Director in 2008. In addition, Chief Houck served as a New Jersey State Fire Instructor and was the City of Summit's Fire Official.

During his accomplished tenure, Chief Houck achieved a number of significant accomplishments in service to the City of Summit and in the name public safety. The Summit Fire Department was accredited by the Center on Fire Accreditation International—the only Fire Department in the state to earn such recognition—and the Department's reputation for professional and timely service improved under his stewardship. He managed numerous disaster responses, including Hurricane Sandy, and was a vital part of the City's emergency management team. His insight, guidance and experience proved extremely valuable during challenging times.

Chief Houck has also been a member of the New Jersey Career Fire Chiefs Association and has been its liaison to the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness Emergency Services Sector, a member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs and served on its Emergency Management Committee working on interstate mutual aid plans.

I wish Chief Houck many years of happiness in his retirement spent with his wife, Irene, and his children. I thank him for his dedicated public service.

HONORING THE LIFE OF BRUCE
FARRIS

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and career of a local Fresno icon, Bruce Farris, who passed away on Wednesday, May 6, 2015 at the age of 88.

Bruce was born on March 25, 1927, in Coldwater, Michigan, to Ross and Ruth Farris. At the age of four, with the Great Depression limiting jobs, the family gathered their belongings and drove to California in their Hudson

Essex automobile. They settled in Reedley and three years later moved to Fresno. There, Bruce attended Daily Elementary School, Hamilton Junior High, and graduated from Fresno High School in 1945. At Fresno High, Bruce played baseball, basketball, and most importantly, during his senior year, he wrote for the Fresno High Owl.

Following high school, Bruce attended Fresno State College for two years where he played basketball and wrote for the Daily Collegian as a reporter and an editor. After college, he worked for the Fresno Guide and the St. Louis Cardinals organization. At the age of 21, he was hired by the Fresno Bee. His career began by reporting on Fresno State athletics, and later expanded to a broader range of sporting events. What distinguished Mr. Farris from other reporters, and what made his career so impressive, was his enthusiasm for his job and his love for all sports. Additionally, Mr. Farris was unbiased and fair, making it a point to report objectively.

While working at the Fresno Bee, Bruce worked with a secretary named Barbara Harper, whom he married in 1955. Bruce and Barbara had three children, Greg, Nancy, and Sandra. They raised their children in a home on First Street, and opened their door to many, from people from church, to neighborhood kids, and friends, relatives, and foreign exchange students. Everyone was welcome in their home at any time.

In 1997, Mr. Farris was inducted into the Fresno Athletic Hall of Fame after decades of covering Fresno State athletics. Afterwards, Mr. Farris went on to report for the Fresno Bee as the newspaper's outdoors and golf writer. He worked at the Fresno Bee for 23 years before retiring in December 2002. Bruce had a truly amazing 52 year long career.

According to his daughter Nancy, Mr. Farris was defined by his faith, love of family, and love of sports, three things which led him to be such a great man. Mr. Farris' loss is heart-breaking for Fresno, and his passing will be felt by the many friends that he has gained throughout the years. Everyone that knew Mr. Farris describes him as a kind man who truly cared for others, and who was respected by everyone who had the honor of knowing him.

Mr. Farris' wife, Barbara, died in 2007. He is survived by his one son, Greg, two daughters, Nancy and Sandra, nine grandchildren, and one great-grandchild on the way. Mr. Speaker, it is with the utmost respect that I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the wonderful life and distinguished career of Bruce Farris. Mr. Farris' passing is a loss to our community. While his presence will be greatly missed, his legacy will continue through his writing.

MATTHEW GOELLNER

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Mr. Matthew Goellner as a member of the United States Air Force Academy Class of 2015.

Matthew will graduate from the U.S. Air Force Academy as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Air Force on May 28, 2015.

His career in the service has just begun, but it is a testament to Matthew's unselfish devotion to the people of this great nation. The challenges will be many and the time, although it may seem like an eternity, will fly by almost unnoticed.

The challenge for this young man will be to retain as much as possible, pass on what he learns to others, and live life for every moment.

South Mississippi is proud of Matthew and his accomplishments, and we look forward to him continuing to represent not only Mississippi, but the entire nation, as a United States Air Force officer.

As Matthew embarks on a new chapter in life, it is my hope that he may always recall with a deep sense of pride and accomplishment graduating from a program as prestigious as the Air Force Academy.

I would like to send Matthew my best wishes for continued success in his future endeavors, thank him for his service, and congratulate him on this momentous occasion.

TRIBUTE TO PUBLISHER DOROTHY LEAVELL AND THE CHICAGO CRUSADER NEWSPAPER ON ITS 75TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, the Chicago Crusader Newspaper is celebrating its 75th year Anniversary with a festive gala on June 5th, 2015 at the Loews Chicago Hotel and I take this opportunity to commend and congratulate them for 75 years of pleading the cause for Black America. To maintain itself for 75 years as a free and independent Black oriented publication is indeed a great business accomplishment.

The Chicago Crusader's mission has not changed since it was established by Mrs. Leavell's late husband, Balm M. Leavell and his late partner Mr. Joseph H. Jefferson. The Chicago Crusader was founded in 1940, was published in the Ida B. Wells Housing Development and financed with donations.

Mrs. Dorothy Leavell has worked at the Crusader for more than fifty years and has been editor and publisher, for forty-seven years since the death of her late husband. The Chicago Crusader Newspaper and Mrs. Dorothy Leavell affectionately know to "tell it like it is". In 1941, the Chicago Crusader acquired the Gary Crusader and they are recognized as one of Chicago and Gary's most successful Black owned business enterprises.

The Chicago/Gary Crusader maintains its roots in the heart of the Black community with its headquarters being located in the 6400 Block of South King Drive in Chicago. Mrs. Dorothy Leavell is a stalwart member and leader of the National Newspaper Publishers Association, has served as Chairman of the National Black Chamber of Commerce, is a patron of the Arts and a Crusader for Civil Rights, equal opportunity and equal justice for all.

We salute you Chicago/Gary Crusader, we salute you Mrs. Dorothy Leavell, may you and the Crusader forever live.

HONORING YOUNTVILLE CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lee Hart and the Yountville Cemetery Association, caretakers for the George C. Yount Pioneer Cemetery in Napa County. The cemetery is named after George C. Yount, an early settler, who was also the first person to plant grapevines in the Napa Valley.

Yount himself was buried in the cemetery in 1865 before it was purchased by his son-in-law to be preserved for future generations. The Yountville Cemetery Association was created in 1892, and took on the responsibility for its upkeep and preservation. By 1959, California recognized the cemetery as a state historical landmark. The cemetery is the final resting place for over one hundred of our nation's veterans and their families, and also includes historic Native American burial grounds.

The association's all-volunteer staff continues to maintain the grounds year-round, along with responding to family requests and handling the few burials that still occur there each year. This year marks 150 years since Yount's passing and 50 years since Lee Hart joined the Association Board as its President.

Mr. Hart is a local historian and authority on Yount's history and has been volunteering at the George C. Yount Cemetery and Ancient Burial Grounds for 50 years. In 1965, the organization lacked organization and volunteers. Hart decided to help create a new board with by-laws and fifty years later continues volunteering. Hart was just 25 years old when he lost his parents three months apart in 1965. His mother's family, long time Yountville residents were buried in the Yountville Cemetery. As such, Hart made the decision to bury his parents in Yountville.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting and proper that we honor Lee Hart and the Yountville Cemetery Association at this time. Their commitment to maintaining the George C. Yount Pioneer Cemetery has preserved an important part of Napa and California's history.

THE UNITED STATES' COMMITMENT TO FIGHT AGAINST VIOLENT EXTREMISTS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, April 2nd was expected to be just another day at Garissa University College in Kenya. But in the early morning hours, students awoke in terror as armed gunman stormed the campus. They claimed to be militants from Al-Qaeda's offshoot—Al-Shabaab.

The students' fate was determined by their religion. The terrorists allowed Muslims to leave and kept an unknown number of Christians hostage. After nearly 15 hours of fear, 147 people were killed.

Groups like Al-Shabaab, ISIS, Boko Haram, and many more allow for no compromise and

are intent on spreading oppression and fear amongst those who do not share their ideology.

I commend the first responders and ordinary Kenyans who showed tremendous heroism that day, and my deepest condolences go out to the families and victims of this senseless attack.

H. Res. 213 reaffirms United States' commitment to the multilateral, global fight against violent extremists.

We must be vigilant in this fight, and we must allow for no compromise when there are threats to freedom.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING GRANGER MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Granger Middle School in Aurora, Illinois, for being named an Illinois Horizon School to Watch by the Association of Illinois Middle-Grade Schools.

The Association of Illinois Middle-Grade Schools recognizes educational programs that promote quality and fairness in order to provide educators, parents, and students with the best learning environment possible. Alongside the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grade Reform, the Association of Illinois Middle-Grade Schools designates certain institutions that fit these criteria as an Illinois Horizon School to Watch.

Granger Middle School was included for the second time on this list because the faculty, staff, and students have consistently demonstrated outstanding academic achievement, sensitivity to the needs of their students, and a commitment to creating equal opportunity in the classroom. Additionally, Granger Middle School's dedicated faculty and involved parents make them one of the best middle schools in the state of Illinois. These qualities create not only a terrific educational experience inside the classroom, but also produce a community that supports and encourages students long after their time at Granger is complete.

Congratulations to Granger Middle School for being named an Illinois Horizon School to Watch.

INTRODUCTION OF SIMON WIESENTHAL HOLOCAUST EDUCATION ASSISTANCE ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to introduce the Simon Wiesenthal Holocaust Education Assistance Act.

This important bill will support efforts around the country to increase awareness and understanding of the Holocaust through educational programs. States across the country encourage their schools to teach about the atrocities

of the Holocaust, and this bill will enhance these efforts through targeted grants to non-profit educational organizations to support teacher training, student field trips, and the development of high-quality educational materials.

A Pew Research Center report published earlier this year found that the harassment of Jews worldwide reached a seven-year high in 2013, and violent anti-Semitic attacks across Europe last year highlight that intolerance persists even in the 21st century. Programs supported by this legislation will help students learn the consequences of intolerance to work towards unity and peace.

I hope my colleagues will join me to support the Simon Wiesenthal Holocaust Education Assistance Act.

IN RECOGNITION OF BOBBIE STEEVER, RECIPIENT OF THE GREATER WILKES-BARRE SALVATION ARMY OTHERS AWARD

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bobbie Steever, who is receiving the Greater Wilkes-Barre Salvation Army Others Award.

Since retiring from Bell of America in 1991, Mrs. Steever refused to let retirement slow her down. She has worked for several companies and organizations including Trade Eastern, Inc., Lewith & Freeman Real Estate, and Penn State Wilkes-Barre. Following her time at Penn State, she spent 15 years with TRR & Associates as a professional consultant in fundraising, events planning, and public relations. Today, she serves as the Executive Director of Community Services for TFP Limited, a real estate development and management company.

Driven by a genuine passion to serve others, Mrs. Steever's outreach to the community began many years ago serving as Chair of Bell's Community Relations Service Team. She has served as chair, board member, solicitor, and friend of several local non-profits, including the Osterhout Library, Back Mountain Memorial Library, Catherine McAuley House, Family Service Association of Wyoming Valley, Luzerne County Community College, Penn State Wilkes-Barre, Wyoming Valley United Way, Association for the Blind, American Heart Association, and the Salvation Army. In 2010, the Times Leader newspaper recognized Mrs. Steever as one of the Great Women of Northeast Pennsylvania for her accomplishments in the workplace and in her community.

Mrs. Steever also served with the Salvation Army's Wilkes-Barre Corps for nine years, where she repeatedly proved her ability to effectively orchestrate their Annual Community Award Dinners, raising approximately \$1,300,000 for the Kirby Health Center Family House, a transitional housing program for homeless families.

It is a distinct honor to congratulate Bobbie Steever on receiving the Greater Wilkes-Barre Salvation Army Others Award, and I commend her for the many years of dedicated service she provided to our local community. Her work

on behalf of others serves as an inspiration for all of us.

DEVELOPMENTS IN RWANDA

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, in 1994, the east African nation of Rwanda experienced one of the most horrific genocides in modern times. An estimated 800,000 Rwandans—mostly ethnic Tutsis and moderates among the ethnic Hutus were brutally murdered in a state-backed extermination campaign that lasted for months.

Hutu-Tutsi tensions date back to colonial times, when the Belgians created a superior class composed of Tutsis, shutting out Hutus from government jobs and higher education despite Hutus comprising about 85% of the population. In 1959 and 1960, tensions among the Hutus exploded in a campaign that left 20,000 Tutsis dead and created 300,000 Tutsi refugees.

As with this earlier genocide, the international community watched largely from the sidelines during the 1994 genocide in Rwanda as the death toll rose from April until July of that year until the Rwandan Patriotic Front or RPF defeated the Hutu-led government militarily. More than two million mostly-Hutu refugees flooded into the Democratic Republic of the Congo, leading to continuing problems in that country. The RPF-led Rwandan government has criticized the United Nations for sheltering Hutu participants in the genocide and for allowing them to arm in refugee camps.

Over the years, the RPF has used the guilt of the international community as a shield to prevent criticism of its action. U.N. Ambassador Samantha Power referred to Ambassador Susan Rice and her colleagues in the Clinton administration in the 1990s as By-standers to Genocide. She quotes Rice in the 2002 book as saying, "If we use the word 'genocide' and are seen as doing nothing, what will be the effect on the November congressional election?" Part of Rice's team during those years was Gayle Smith, current nominee to head the U.S. Agency for International Development.

As far back as May 1998, I chaired a hearing that included testimony about the willful U.S. neglect in preventing the Rwandan genocide. As recounted in an issue of the New Yorker magazine at the time, a high-ranking Rwandan informant had warned the U.N. leadership, including Kofi Annan, and the United States about preparations for killings 3 months before they began. The recipients apparently did not act on that information.

Furthermore, the United States has been accused not merely of inaction, but also of obstructing preemptive multilateral efforts to quell the crisis. Some have alleged that, in the words of Refugees International president Lionel Rosenblatt, "The ball was not only dropped by the United States, it was blocked by the United States."

Paul Kagame, now President of Rwanda, was hailed as one of "Africa's new leaders" by Rice and her team during the 1990s, and there has been no apparent change in their

high opinion of him since then despite what Deputy Assistant Secretary Robert Jackson describes as several public administration statements related to human rights concerns and ongoing dialogue with the Rwandan government.

Kagame has been considered a hero on the international stage, and has long been immune to public criticism. However, human rights reports about abuses in Rwanda have grown over the years. The most recent State Department human rights report about Rwanda accuses the government of "targeting of political opponents and human rights advocates for harassment, arrest and abuse." Many observers note the constraints on freedom of expression that criminalizes public criticism of the RPF and its policies, as well as outlawing public discussion of ethnic issues. In that vein, the RPF has used charges of "genocide ideology" and "divisionism" as well as national security concerns, to justify prosecution of opposition political figures and journalists and prevent human rights organizations from reporting on events in their country.

In recent years, there are credible reports that the RPF government has commissioned assassins to kill dissidents living in exile who criticize the government or attempt to form political associations or parties.

Several years ago, our committee Chairman ED ROYCE was told by Paul Russessabagina of Hotel Rwanda fame that the Rwandan Government had targeted him and was behind several attempts on his life in Belgium.

In early 2014, former Rwandan intelligence chief Patrick Karegeya who had been living in exile in South Africa, was found murdered in his hotel room in Johannesburg.

Karegeya was one of two dissidents, one of the witnesses at a hearing I held yesterday—former Rwandan Major Robert Higiroy—says he was asked to have killed. The assassination plot he revealed was investigated and substantiated in a series of articles in Canada's Globe and Mail newspaper, which interviewed Rwandan exiles in South Africa and Belgium.

Since 2012, I have chaired a series of hearings on the violence perpetrated by various militias in eastern DRC. Perhaps the best known of them, the so-called M23, was supported by Rwanda. This Congress has enacted restrictions on some military assistance to Rwanda in response to its involvement in militia activity in the DRC and involvement in resource smuggling from that country, as uncovered in several U.N. reports.

These charges of serious human rights and other abuses would be troubling in any case, but Rwanda is a country that has enjoyed significant U.S. and international support. By largely avoiding criticism of Rwandan human rights issues, the Bush and Obama administrations raised appropriations to Rwanda from \$39 million in FY2003 to \$188 million in FY2014. This largely has involved funding of health, food security and other socioeconomic projects, as well as support for Rwandan participation in international peacekeeping.

Rwanda is the sixth largest troop and police contributing country in the U.N., with more than 4,000 troops, more than 400 police, and 13 military observers in seven U.N. missions, including: the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID); the U.N. Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS); the U.N. Stabilization Mission in Haiti

(MINUSTAH); the U.N. Mission in Liberia (UNMIL); the U.N. Interim Security Force in Abyei (UNISFA); the U.N. Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI), and the U.N. Integrated Peace-building Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS).

Rwanda, due to donor aid, political stability and favorable investor policies, has grown by an average of 8% annually over the past decade. It is considered one of the recipient countries most able to achieve results from aid programs. Yet donors began reducing or redirecting funds in 2012 because of Rwanda's role in supporting M23. The growing reports of human rights abuses also are leading to greater caution among donor nations about directly supporting the Rwandan Government.

LONG TERM FUNDING FOR HIGHWAY TRUST FUND

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in support of a long-term surface transportation bill.

Right now Americans are looking to Congress for REAL bipartisan solutions to fund and upgrade our deteriorating infrastructure system. As hard as it may be, as uncomfortable and contentious as the debates may become, it's time to for us to move past the senseless chatter and to stop kicking the can down the road.

We must get serious about fixing America's infrastructure and establishing long-term funding for the Highway Trust Fund. This is not the time for partisan politics. We need to work together for the benefit of the men and women who sent us here.

Yesterday, the House passed a bill that was nothing more than another "Band-Aid" for a much larger problem. The American Society of Civil Engineers estimates that 1 out of every 9 bridges in the U.S. is structurally deficient, and gave our overall infrastructure a "D-."

An alarming 54 percent of all major U.S. roads are in poor or mediocre condition, and these roads account for 1 in 3 fatal traffic accidents. In my home state of Alabama alone, driving on roads in need of repair cost motorists \$1.2 billion a year.

Now is the time for a lasting solution to this important issue. Yet, here we are, at the end of May, and we are no closer to crafting a long-term solution to invest in our roads, bridges, and rails than we were this time last year.

The benefits to investing in our highways, bridges, railroads, and other transit systems are clear. By building the infrastructure of tomorrow, we would create thousands of good-paying jobs that help more hard-working Americans earn a living.

A solid transportation system is necessary to quickly move goods, which will help further grow our economy. This is vital if America is to compete in the 21st century global marketplace.

I urge my colleagues to work together to develop a long-term plan that will improve our aging infrastructure, encourage job creation, and strengthen our nation's economic development.

IN HONOR OF SSGT MICHAEL WAYNE SCHAFER

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 21, 2015

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a real American Hero, SSGT Michael Schafer of the United States Army, 2nd BATTALION, 173 Airborne. Mike served in Kosovo, Iraq, and Afghanistan. He received the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, and the Silver Star. Michael was killed in Oruzgan in combat on July 25, 2005 as part of a quick response team while helping fellow soldiers under fire. He is survived by his wife Danielle, son Devin, his mother Karen and step-father Daniel Barr, his father Mark Schafer, retired Navy of Williamsburg, his sister Sarah, and two brothers, Mark Shafer and Timothy Barr. Today and every day let us all remember all of those selfless heroes like Michael and their families who give that last full measure in the name of freedom. Michael wanted to become a Ranger, but due to a loss of hearing in combat, was told he should retire. Instead, he chose to return to his brothers in combat and died on his last tour. Albert Caswell penned the following poem, "Our America's Son", in honor of Michael Shafer this Memorial Day.

"Our, America's Son
this chosen one
Of warm heart and steal,
who to us all has so revealed
How it is on earth,
as it is in heaven as they will be done.
Who so gave that full measure.
The greatest of all possible treasures,
as did America's Son
As now we all so weep
As all in our heart's Michael you we keep,
oh so very deep.
As we remember what to all of us what you'd
so teach
About life and death,
all in honor's quest . . . for all your brothers
in arms you'd seek . . .
As you were a man of actions and deeds
All else supersedes
Could all our hearts as high yours exceed?
But for the greater good,
in all you could.
Now all in our grief.
Now all in our loss we seek.
Of such cost it reaps.
This pain to ease.
As to us now all so speaks.
For your life was Army Strong.
For magnificent men like you Mike,
all live ever after in history like a song.
Whose courage forever rings loud and long.
As but The Best of the Best.
Because moments are all we have.
Just minutes to turn good from bad.
And now we lay your fine body down to
sleep.
All in our hearts now so very deep.
And across Williamsburg tonight
There comes a gentle rain
Comes our Lord's tears to so help to ease
your families pain
To wash down upon you to remain
Until, once again up in Heaven you will all
meet again,
and you won't have to cry no more
And hush little baby don't you cry,
because one day up in heaven you will look
into your father's eyes
And remember he is with you this day by
your side.
And you too Danielle his lovely wife, must
somehow find the strength to start a
new life
And all of his family find peace all in his
light.
Now rest my son,
your war is over on earth, is done.
And rise up for your new battle begun.
As an Angel in the Army of our Lord
To watch over us ever more.
For Michael you are now so one.
At Ease, America's Son!"